

THE
MEMOIRS
AND
ADVENTURES

OF
ROBERT KIRK, *K*
Late of the Royal Highland Regiment.

CONTAINING

A Journal of the most important Occurrences in the late War; the Reduction of Crown-point, Montreal, &c. A description of the back Parts of North-America; of the great Lakes, Rivers, and Waterfalls; of the Beasts, Birds, Fish, Fruits, Trees, Articles of Commerce and Prices of Skins. The Customs of the Indians, with whom the Author lived for some time; their methods of Hunting, Fowling, Fishing, Navigating, Rearing Children, Marriages, and Burials. With many other Curious Particulars, never before Published.

Written by Himself.

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Advertisement.

THE candid Reader will overlook any incorrectness of Language in the following pages, when he is informed that the Author had not the advantage of a classical Education. Yet he can aver with great truth, that he has not inserted any lying or fabulous story in these Memoirs. His being a Prisoner among the Indians, gave him an opportunity of observing their Manners, and few Men have travelled more than he has, in the back parts of North America. To those therefore, who are obliged to visit that Continent, the book will be found an interesting and useful companion, and to his Readers in general he hopes an entertaining one.



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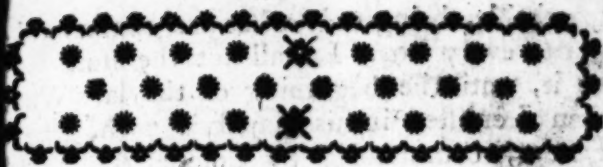
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MEMOIRS

OF

ROBERT KIRK

ANY Persons have written their lives, with a view of Emolument only. I must confess that is in part, my motive, but chiefly for to testify to the World, the providential care of the Almighty, in bringing me through so many dangers; in relating the particulars of which, I shall confine myself to truth. I shall not delay the reader's curiosity any longer, but set out by informing him, I was born in the Town of Air, in the West parts of North Britain, of honest, old, creditable Parents, who gave me what may be call'd a common education, because their circumstances could not afford better; but they were careful to bring me up in the knowledge and fear of God.

The early passages of my life, are nothing remarkable

remarkable, being only what are common almost to every Boy; I shall not therefore notice it, until the beginning of the late War, when I enlisted in his Majesty's 77th. Regiment of Foot, commanded by Colonel Archibald Montgomery, in the latter end of the Year 1756. From which time until March 1757, was employed in Recruiting and Disciplining the Regiment, which was mostly composed of impress'd men from the Highlands. Glasgow being our Rendezvous, we were review'd there, and were above a Thousand strong, all men in the prime of their youth, and full of health and vigor.

Soon after we were order'd for Ireland, when we landed at a place called Donaghadee, from whence we marched for Corke, where we embarked on board the Transport for South-Carolina, and reach'd the Port of Charles-Town, after a passage of nine weeks. During our Passage we saw an Engagement between a Whale and a Sword-Fish, at the distance of a Gun-shot from our Frigate. We were perfectly charm'd when we saw the Sword-Fish jump out of the water in order to dart its spear into the body of the Whale, who oblig'd to take breath. This entertaining show lasted at least two hours, sometimes to the starboard, and sometimes to the larboard of the Ship.

We landed here and were extremely well received by the Inhabitants; we lay in the Barracks there for nine Months, and were

then order'd to embark for the Province of Pennsylvania. General Forbes commanded the Troops there, and was at that time preparing for a Campaign to the Westward, in order to reduce Fort-Duquesne, then belonging to the French. The General being very much indisposed, was not able to put this project into execution, before the first of July, which retarded our operations very much, it being the beginning of August 1758, before we reach'd a place called Bedford, on the extremity of the British settlements at that Period.

THE first Regiment of Virginians cut the roads from Fort Loudon to this place, where, with the fatigue of the march, the General took sick, and call'd the place Bedford, in honour of the Duke of that name. Nothing could be more shocking than to view the horrible situation of this beautiful Country, at that time. The Houses deserted, the Corn fields, Orchards, and well-filled Haggards wet smoking, melancholy proofs of the barbarous enmity of the merciless Indians.— This scene continued for the extent of eighty miles, from Shipensburg to the before mentioned Bedford, in the Province of Pennsylvania, and whoever was so unhappy as to fall into the hands of these inhuman wretches, was either scalped and burnt or otherways barbarously used.

WHILE we stayed here, we were join'd by the Young Carpenter, King of the Creek Indians

dians, with part of his tribe, and a few of the Cherokees. These, and about Twenty white Men, composed a scout under the command of Capt. M'Laughlan, who had orders to view the Fortifications of Fort-Duquesne. But he not being acquainted with the Country, miss'd his rout, and fell in with the River Ohio, fifty miles below the Fort, where he was attacked by a party of French and Shannee Indians; the engagement was long and so decisive that not one of the enemy escaped. Our loss consisted only of two killed and one wounded, whom we were under the necessity of leaving behind, with such quantity of provisions as could conveniently be spared; however we never heard any thing of him after.

It was now the best of our play, to return immediately to Bedford, where the whole army waited impatiently for our intelligence. But we could not give any information of the strength of the enemy, being so much harassed in our retreat by parties of the French and Shannie Indians, drawn together for that purpose, and they were often so near us, that we could plainly distinguish their halloo.— This being the first scout I ever went upon, you may imagine how fatigued I was. But amidst these hardships, I had the comfort of a relief from the firm and intrepid conduct of the Little Carpenter and his Indians, who assisted us greatly in carrying our baggage, and with a generosity hardly to be equalled
always

always set aside the largest part of the provisions for the white people.

When we arrived at Bedford and had given what information we could, the greatest part of the army were ordered to march, and here was a fresh difficulty, having a road to cut for our passage as far as Ligonier, an extent of fifty miles. We built a stockade fort, and encamped a regiment of Virginians within the stockades, who were attack'd by a scouting party of three hundred men, French and Indians, but their attempt was fruitless, having only killed and scalped three or four, and lost a much greater number. In this place a council of war was held, at which Colonel Buccoad of the Royal Americans presided, and their resolution was, that Major Grant an enterprizing good soldier, should go and endeavour to surprize Fort Duquesne.

I had the fortune to be one of this party. When we set out, it was the latter end of August, and the fall of the leaf, so that trees and the Indians were of the same colour, and this circumstance, trifling as it may appear, ought always to be consider'd, by forces who mean to operate with success against them, as at that season they have a full view of you, but you can't have the least idea of them. However we proceeded by an Indian path, to a place call'd the Long Meadows on the River Ohio, seven miles below Fort Duquesne; where we rendezvous'd, and refresh-

refreshed ourselves, from thence to Grant's hill, a small mile from the Fort, where we lay upon our arms 'till day-break, when we were to storm. But this proved an abortive scheme, for two of the Royal Americans deserted, and informed the enemy of our strength and councils, but this unhappily did not come to our knowledge until we were routed.

We began our attack, by posting three companies over against the gates of the Fort with orders to rush in as soon as they heard the main body attempt the walls. That we might the better distinguish our own people every one had a white shirt over his coat. Upon the information of the deserters, the french sent over the rivers Allegany and Monengahaly (which empty themselves into the Ohio,) two large parties of Indians who were encamped on the banks, who when they heard the report of the fire arms, failed up these two rivers in their canoes, and landed at the point which the fort is built upon, and thus, when we least expected, attack'd us in the rear, and the whole strength of the garrison in our front. The three companies before mention'd, stood firm a long time, and by their regular platoon firing annoyed the enemy greatly. But by their superiority and repeated attacks, this brave handful was at length broken and obliged to retreat in confusion to the main body. In this critical situation we exerted our utmost courage, and

cept the enemy at bay for a full hour, until we were in short almost all cut off.

It is impossible to describe the confusion and horror which ensued, when all hopes of victory was gone. We were dispersed here and there, for my part I cannot inform the reader, how affairs went with my fellow soldiers, for I was pursued by four Indians, who fired at me several times, and their shot went through my cloaths, one of them however made sure, and wounded me in the leg with a buck-shot.

I was immediately taken, but the Indian who laid hold of me would not allow the rest to scalp me, tho' they proposed to do so; in short he befriended me greatly, (as you shall hereafter be inform'd,) however I was bound hand and foot and left in his charge, in a little time some Squaws i. e. female Indians came, and carried me into a canoe, and paddled over to the other side of the Alleghany-river, when they put me into one of their Wigwams i. e. Indian-houses, where one of them dress'd my wound with great care,

I cannot express the woefulness of my situation, during the night that intervened betwixt this and the next day; which I concluded would certainly be my last. I was confirm'd in this opinion, when I saw the rest of the Indians arrive, and bring with them several other prisoners whom I did not know. They immediately stript me of my cloaths

cloaths and in return gave me an old Indian blanket and britch-clout to cover my nakedness. Upon the third day after my being inward, a french officer came over and spoke to the Indians, in order to have us ransom'd; but they would not foregoe themselves the pleasure of indulging their savage natures. He enquir'd of us concerning the strength of the english, what time we thought they would lay siege to the fort, and several such questions; adding that he was sorry for us, and that it was not in the power of the French to redeem us.

NOTHING but death inevitable was before us, and we remained in this painful uncertainty 'till the fifth Day, when we were brought forth, being nine in number, amongst a great many Indians, where we were unbound, scourg'd, and tortur'd the whole day; and here I cannot help remarking the inhumanity of the French, who took a great pleasure in participating in this cruel spectacle. As night approached we were carried into a council of the gravest Indians, and were by them ordered to be severally tied to posts where there were all kinds of Pine-fir in heaps ready to be burnt. I here summon'd all the fortitude I was master of, in order to enable me to resign myself to the will of providence. But I was not much longer in suspense, for the Indian who had taken me prisoner, accompanied by one of their chiefs came and told me in English, which he could

spea

speak brokenly, that I was not to be burnt;
 that I was for the future to be to him as a
 brother, his father being my father, and all
 his friends my friends. I was sometime before I
 collected myself so much as to understand
 them, being quite ignorant of their method
 of adoption, of which more hereafter.

I was carried by my adopted brother to
 view the war-dance, as they call it, when
 they burn any of their enemies; and to my
 unspeakable grief and terror saw five out of
 nine burned in the most cruel manner.—
 The method they follow in the perpetration
 of this horrid scene, is as follows, viz ha-
 ving purposely collected a number of the
 plants that grow in fir-trees, they stick these
 into the fleshy parts of the unhappy victims,
 and then set them on fire, which consumes
 them in a slow and lingering manner, during
 which time the Indians dance and skip about
 them, using the most insulting gesticulation;
 and, as if this was not enough, they fre-
 quently use the barbarity of tomohawking
 them, i. e. striking a tomohawk into their
 skulls. When they have thus finished their
 bloody purposes, they go to drink and festi-
 vity, throughout the whole of which, the
 hellish antipathy to their unhappy ene-
 mies seems predominant, a melancholy proof
 of which, I had like to have experienced.

HAVING been brought home by my adopt-
 ed mother, who celebrated my initiation by
 dancing over me for an hour or more; she then
 brought

brought me some victuals, and a little french brandy, which she had saved during their debauch, which to me was a most acceptable present, nothing having cross'd my throat for two days before; it revived me greatly. As I was in myself returning the Almighty thanks for my preservation, when a new danger attended, and had like to have been fatal to me.

A drunken Indian coming into our wigwam, would instantly have killed me, but was prevented by my adopted brother, who came in along with him, and resented the attempt so much as to turn him out of the hut, and turning to me presented his pipe for me to smoke, which is a certain sign of their friendship. He also gave me a better shirt, new blanket, a britch-cloth, a pair of leggings and Indian shoes made of buck-skin. Next day he cut my hair after the Indian form, painted my face of their colour, oil'd my joints, and would have me to let him cut my ears, but he could not prevail with me to admit of this last operation, as I was apprehensive it would be painful; here we had like to quarrel, but on my begging him to be quiet, he agreed to omit it.

He then informed me that about four moons before, they were at war with a neighbouring nation called Cherokees, and that in an engagement they had, his brother was killed, but that the good Man, i. e. God, had sent me in his place, and that I should have

all he had, and his friends should be my friends, and his enemies mine, and in token of this agreement, he gave me a gun, powder and shot, a tomohawk and scalping knife, and upon this occasion, he made an entertainment to his friends and acquaintances.

I seem'd to partake of their mirth, which delighted them, that they hugged me and called me in their broken english, Brother; they then gave me the name of him, in whose place I was adopted.

It is a custom amongst them, as I afterwards learned, when the father, brother, or other relation falls in the war, the next prisoner taken by the son or brother of the deceased, is adopted in his place, and they always pay him the regard due to a father or brother. They used me with so much affection, that at first I could not help regarding them very much; but there is something in the manners and inclinations of Europeans so different from them, that it is not possible they should long agree together.

The Hunting season approaching, we decamp'd, each family taking a different rout, and seeking their game in the best manner they could; this took up a considerable time, and every night they built their Wigwams. Upon this expedition I learned, that the French, a few days after our defeat, had broken up their fortification at Fort Duquesne, and went to New-Orleans, which did not by any means please the Indi-

ans, who suspected that they would at last desert, and leave them entirely to the mercy of the English.

We at last arrived at the town or settled residence of these Indians, when I was presented to my adopted wife and a fine boy whom my brother told me was my son; she seemed very glad at my appearance, but begged she might be excused my bed, as she had so great a veneration for her deceased husband she thought this sacrifice due to his memory.— I was not the least displeased at my spouse's behaviour, but could with all the pleasure in the world, have for ever dispensed with her company, however I feign'd myself otherwise that she might not take disgust and plot against my life. I was then shewed my cornfield, which was quite ripe; I here turned my thoughts to providing meat for my spouse and son, that being all required of me, it being her part to find the bread and other domestic necessities. I remain'd a considerable time in this town, and refresh'd myself greatly after my fatigues.

It will not be improper in this place, to give the reader some idea of their manner of laying, and living with each other. Their wigwams or houses are built of the bark of fir-trees, secured from the weather with the same, and consists of one apartment only, the center of which, stands their fire-place round which, when at home, they sit to visit their friends. There is no manner of use for furniture.

late among them, being quite strangers to the elegance and taste, shewn in furnishing the apartments of an European. When they go to rest, the males and females take each a separate blanket, wrap themselves wherein, and thus take their repose with their feet turned to the fire, which they generally keep burning all night. I was obliged to conform myself to their customs, and must acknowledge that I lay very warm,

WHILE I was among them, I lost all knowledge of the time, the Indians calculating all by Moons; and so exact are they in this science, that even the most ignorant amongst them, can tell you with precision, how many moons have elapsed since they were born.—As high as I can recollect, I think we staid there for the course of a whole moon; when one day my brother came and told me they were going to hunt, and said if I choose I might go along with them. I told him I should be glad of the opportunity, at which he was much pleased. He then told me, that his tribe was of the Shannie nation, and that they were then at war with all the Indians to the south of them, the reason of which, was, That some of the Creek and Cherokee Indians, had killed several of their hunting-party on the river Ohio; and he added, that I should go next spring, and take revenge upon them, for the loss of his brother, to which I gave my assent. In the mean time we set out upon a hunting party, along the banks of the

the Ohio, and penetrated 500 miles farther than Fort Duquesne, into the very heart of a most beautiful country, and the best adapted for their purpose of any in America.

HERE the Buffalo are as plenty as our black cattle in Europe, the Deer as numerous as our Sheep, and wild Turkeys in as much abundance as our poultry; of these we kill a great number, and having dressed them, lay apart to carry home. Thus prepared they will keep all summer as well as if salted. When they dress it, they boil it in Bear's oil which softens it to such a degree, as they can eat it easily. I could have lived here tolerably, had there been any salt to be had, but the continual fresh-meat was so very unfavourable, that until I got into their method (which is to eat the fat with the lean) I was almost starved.

I observed tho' my adopted brother and I were very friendly, yet he did not care to allow me to be alone, when I told him I thought his assiduity rather troublesome, excused himself by saying, he was afraid I should lose myself in those vast woods, I thanked him for his care and so drop'd the subject. In one of our discourses, I asked him what was the reason, he and the rest of his nation had so much regard for the French, and such an antipathy to the English, and why they acted with so much inhumanity towards the settlers; he answered, because the French were kind to them, and dealt in every thing

towards

wards them with honesty, whereas the English used them quite otherwise, several having wrong'd and in short given them nothing in return for their goods. He added, that the lands now possessed by the English, formerly belong'd to them, and that the French promised they should be restored; he remarked that the English instead of making this restitution, were daily encroaching, and cursing them of what was left, that this, together with the insinuations of the French, gave them great encouragement to murder that fell into their hands; that they paid them well for all the scalps they took, which induced them the more, as by that they were enabled to provide themselves with many necessaries, which they should otherwise be in want of.

I told him that the Good Man was not pleas'd that such murders should be perpetrated, that he had strictly forbid such conduct in his divine law, which he had given to mankind; that besides it was contrary to nature to follow such courses; having more sensibility than the generality of them; he answered he did not like such murders, but that revenge was sweet, and that a bad warrior was esteem'd no better than an old woman. He said likewise, that the Good Man was certainly angry with the white people for taking their lands, as he had given them things easy, their cows and other cattle, making home quiet and tame, whereas they the

the Indians had great trouble in hunting and bringing home their provisions, and were frequently in extreme want when the snow fell deep. I endeavoured to make him think otherwise, and represented things in a quite different light from what he had ever heard 'tho among the Whites for the space of four Years but without effect.

I then asked him what he thought of a future state, he answered his belief was, that at his death he should go to any place that God or the Good Man should appoint, where if his conduct was approved, he should never feel either hunger or cold, or undergo any other hardship. On the contrary, if he was a bad man, he should be sent to a place where he should experience both, and be always in misery. I enquired if he did fear the Good Man's vengeance, to this he replied, that he was not in dread of God, for he knew that he would not hurt them or any one, but that he prayed to the bad Man or the Devil for fear he should hurt them, and that having the power of the winds and storms, he might hurt their hunting and wigwams.

I here observed their adoration and manner of dancing at the full and new moon and at any storm, they will kneel, and pray the old fiend not to do them any hurt, for they think at any high winds, there is great mischief doing in some parts of the World. Like the ancient Heathens, they have the

agi, soothsayers and Augurs, whom on the most trifling occasions they consult; these are generally old men or women, whom they pay fees to, of every thing they possess. They depend much upon the opinion of these last, which is always founded upon their observations on the entrails of beasts, and if any thing is ominous, be their project ever so important, it is postponed to some other time;

THEIR kings or chiefs are also supported at the public expence, being exempt from all manner of work or labour; nor is this pre-eminence hereditary, but he who has most fortune in the war, and takes the greater number of scalps; has by the voice of the whole, the dignity conferred on him. And every Indian is esteemed according to the number of scalps he takes; if he exceeds five, he is called a captain, and commands the like number of inferior Indians. Hence it is, they are always ambitious for war, and to this circumstance alone may be attributed their perseverance and resolution in the midst of great and imminent danger. Each village or canton contains about fourteen thousand souls, 1500 that bear arms, 2000 superannuated men, 4000 women, 2000 maids, and 1000 children: Tho' indeed some will tell you, that each village has not above 10,000 or 11,000 souls.

To resume the thread of my discourse: the Mahadese are a robust, brawny well made people; they are strong, vigorous, active, brave

and indefatigable; in a word, they want nothing but the knowledge of polite Letters. They are presumptuous, and very full of themselves; they value themselves beyond all the nations of the earth, and, which is to be regretted, they have not that veneration for their parents that is due. Their complexion is wonderfully pretty. The women are generally handsome; few of them are brown, but many of them are at once wise and lazy. They love luxury to the last degree, and strive to out-do one another in catching husband bands in the trap.

They marry very young, and consequently have many children, which accounts for the number never diminishing, notwithstanding the terrible havock that is made amongst them by their almost continual wars with one another.——The manner of their wedding is something so peculiar, that I cannot here on giving the reader a brief description of which is as follows.

WHEN a couple is to be married, the friends and relations of the parties are invited, and each takes care to bring with them a present suitable to their abilities. The most reverend of their magi having in their own language given the parties an exhortation to be true to each other, the Indian upon his part presents his bride with the foot of a deer, by which he is bound to find her in flesh meat, and in return, she gives her spouse an ear of Indian corn, being an emblem of her obligation.

which is to find him in bread; this being o-
 cation, they drink a sweetish kind of liquor,
 which is only used upon such occasions, and
 immediately proceed to consummation. If a
 man proves unchaste, whether married or
 single, her hair is immediately cut, and her
 nose cropt as a mark of her infamy.

THEIR children are not used to cradles from
 their infancy, they are tied upon a single
 board, with a head, similar to that of a cradle,
 and this they call a pampous; the head
 is so contrived, as to afford shelter (for both
 mother and child) from the inclement
 weather, and is strapped on the female's back:
 when they travel, by which means the Infant
 always hangs when they travel; and this con-
 tributes greatly to make their young ones
 stout, it being very rare to see a deformed
 Indian. When the child is to be suckled, she
 throws her breasts (which are generally
 covered) over her shoulders, and so nurse and
 travel together with ease; and if at any time
 she halt, will hang her pampous upon a tree,
 and so do any other of her affairs which may
 be needful. It would seem that providence
 has adapted the nature of their children, to
 this rough way of being nursed, for you'll
 never hear them cry, or make the least whim-
 per at the roughness of their usage.

WHEN an Indian dies, he is buried stand-
 ing upright upon his feet, with his gun, bow
 and all his other goods along with him, and
 they are particular in placing his face always

to the East. They howl greatly over an one that dies, visit frequently their graves and make sad complaints to the deceased.

WE hunted here for two moons or better and had great success. Some french traders coming up the Ohio, exchanged powder and shot with us for furs and skins. I had succeeded so well in this party that I bought a rifle gun, some powder, and two new blankets, one of which I sent as a present to my adopted spouse, which was received as a great mark of my love and affection.

In the beginning of September, I set out in a Canoe upon several rivers, marshes, and pools, that disembogue in the champlain lake being accompanied with thirty or forty of the Indians, that are very expert in shooting and hunting, and perfectly well acquainted with the proper places for finding water-fowl, deer and other fallow Beasts.

THE first post we took up was upon the edge of a marsh or Fen of 12 or 13 miles in circumference; and after I had made my hunt the Indians made huts upon the water in several places. These water-huts are made of the branches and leaves of trees, and contain three or four men: for a decoy they have skins of geese, bustards, and ducks, dried and stuffed with hay, the two feet being made fast with two nails to a small piece of a plank, which floats round the hut. The place being frequented by wonderful numbers of geese, bustards, teals, and an infinity

other fowl unknown to the Europeans; when these fowls see the stuff'd skins swimming with the heads erected, as if they were alive, they repair to the same place, and so give the Indians an opportunity of shooting them either flying, or upon the water; after which the Indians get into their canoes and gather them up. They have likewise a way of catching them with nets, stretch'd upon the surface of the water at the entrance of the river. We eat nothing but water-fowl for 15 days; after which we resolved to declare war against the turtle doves, which are so numerous in Canada, that the Bishop has been forced to communicate them oftner than once, upon account of the damage they do to the produce of the earth,

With that view we embarked and made towards a meadow, in the neighbourhood of which, the trees were cover'd with that sort of fowl, more than with leaves: For just when 'twas the season in which they retire from the north countries, and repair to the south countries; and one would have thought that all the turtle-doves upon earth had chosn to pass thro' this place. For the eighteen or twenty days that we stay'd there, I believe that a thousand men might have fed upon them heartily, without putting themselves to any trouble. Through the middle of this meadow there runs a brook, upon which I had two young Indians shot several snipes, quails, and a certain sort of fowl call'd Bateurs

teurs de faux, which is as big as a Quail, and eats very deliciously.

In the same place we kill'd some musk rats or a sort of animals which resemble a rat in their shape; and are as big as a rabbit. The skins of these rats are very much valued, as differing but little from those of Beavers.— Their testicles smell so strong of musk, that no Civet or Antilope that Asia affords, can boast of such a strong and sweet smell. We spy'd them in the mornings and evenings, at which time they usually appear upon the water with their nose to the windward, and betray themselves to the huntsmen, by the curling of the water. The Fouteraux, which are an amphibious sort of little pole-cats, are catch'd after the same manner.

I was likewise entertained upon this occasion, with the killing of a certain little beast, call'd Siffleurs, or Whistlers, with allusion to their wonted way of whistling or whizzing at the mouth of their holes in fair weather. They are as big as hares, but somewhat shorter, their flesh is good for nothing, but their skins are recommended by their rarity. The savages gave me an opportunity of hearing one of these creatures whistle for an hour together, after which they shot it. To gratify the curiosity I had to see such diversity of animals, they made a diligent search for the holes or dens of the Carcaïoux, and having found some at the distance of two or three leagues from the fen upon which we were pos-

ed, they conducted me to the place. At the break of day we planted ourselves round the holes, with out bellies upon the ground; and left some slaves to hold the dogs a musket-shot behind us. As soon as these animals perceived day-light, they came out of their holes, which were immediately stop'd up by the Indians, and upon that the dogs fetch'd them up with ease. We saw but two of 'em, which made a vigorous defence against the dogs, but they were strangled after a dispute of half an hour.

THESE animals are not unlike a Badger, only they are bigger, and more mischievous. Tho' our dogs shew'd a great deal of courage in attacking the Carcaïoux, they betrayed their cowardice the next day in a recounter with a porcupine, which we spy'd upon a lit-
tle tree. To obtain the pleasure of seeing the porcupine fall, we cut down the tree; but neither the dogs nor we durst go near it: the dogs only bark'd and jumped round it; for it started its long and hard hair like so many bodkins, three our four paces off. At last we belted it to death, and put it upon the fire to burn off its darts; after which we scalded it like a pig, took out the intrails, and roast'd it: but tho' it was very fat, I could not relish it so well as to comply with the assertion of the natives, who alledge, that it eats as well as a capon or a patridge.

AFTER the Turtle-doves had all pass'd over the place, in quest of their southern retreats,

treats, the Indians offered to send some of their number with canoes to conduct me home before the rivers and lakes were frozen over; themselves were to tarry out for the Elk-hunting; and they imagined that the cold and hardship attending that exercise, had made me sick of it before.—However, we had then a month good before the commencement of the frost, and in that interval of time, they proffer'd to entertain me with more diverting game than I had seen before.

THEY proposed to go fifteen or sixteen leagues further up the country, assuring me that they knew of a certain place that had the most advantageous situation in the world both for pleasure and profit, and that afforded great plenty of Otters, of the skins of which, they mean'd to make a great cargo. Accordingly we pull'd down our huts, and having embarked in our canoes, sailed up the river, till we came to a little lake of four leagues in circumference, at the end of which we saw another greater lake, divided from this by an isthmus of 150 paces in length. We pitched our huts at the distance of a league from that isthmus; and some of the Indians fish'd for trouts, while the rest were employed in laying traps for the Otters upon the brinks of the lake. These traps are made of five stakes placed in the form of an oblong quadrangle, so as to make a little chamber the door of which is kept up, and supported by a stake. To the middle of this stake the

a string which passes thro' a little fork, and
 is a trout well fastened to the end of it.—
 Now, when the Otter comes on shore, and
 sees this bait, he puts above half his body in-
 to that fatal cage, in order to swallow the fish,
 but he no sooner touches, than the string to
 which 'tis made fast pulls away the stake that
 supports the door, upon which an heavy and
 loaded door falls upon his reins and quashes
 him. During our pilgrimage in that part of
 the country, the Indians took above two hun-
 dred and fifty Canada Otters; the skins of
 which are infinitely prettier than those of
 Muscovy or Sweden. The best of 'em which
 are not worth two crowns in this place, are
 sold in France for four or five, and sometimes
 ten, if they are black and very rough.
 As soon as the Indians had set their traps,
 they gave orders to their slaves to go round
 the Lake every morning, in order to take out
 the amphibious animals. After that they
 conducted me to the above-mention'd isthmus,
 where I was surprized to see a sort of a park
 fence made of trees, fell'd one upon ano-
 ther, and interlaced with thorns and branch-
 es, with a quadrangular inclosure of stakes
 at the end of it, the entry of which was very
 narrow. They gave me to know, that they
 used to hunt Harts in that place, and pro-
 posed to divert me with the show, as soon as
 the inclosures were a little mended. In effect
 they carried me two or three leagues off, up-
 on such roads as had nothing on either side

D

but

but fens and marshes; and after they had dispersed themselves, some on one hand and some on the other, with a Dog for every Man; I saw a great many Harts running to and again, in quest of places of safety. The Indian that I kept company with, assured me, that he and I had no occasion to walk very fast, because he took the straightest and nearest road. Before us we saw about ten Harts, which were forced to turn back rather than throw themselves into the marsh of which they could never get clear. At last after walking a great pace, and running now and then, we arrived at the park, and found the Indians lying flat upon the ground all round it, in order to shut up the entry of the stake enclosure as soon as the Harts entered. We found thirty five Harts in the place, and if the park had been better fenced we might have had above sixty; for the nimblest and lightest of 'em skip'd over before they came to enter the inclosure. We killed a great many of them, but spared the dam because they were great with young. I asked of the Indians the tongues and the marrow of the Harts, which they gave me very readily. The flesh was very fat, but not delicious, excepting some few bits about the ribs. But after all this was not our only game; for two days after we went Bear hunting, and the Indians who spend three parts of four of their lives in hunting in the woods. are very dexterous at that exercise especially

pecially in singling out the trunks of the trees upon which the Bears nestle. I could not but admire their knowledge in that point, when, as we were walking up and down in the forest, at the distance of an hundred paces one from another, I heard one Indian call to another, here's a Bear. I asked them how they knew that there was a Bear upon the tree which he knocked with his axe; and they all replied, that it was as easily distinguished as the print of an Elk's foot in the snow. For five or six times they never missed; for after they had knock'd two or three times upon the trunk of the tree, the Bear came out of its hole, and was presently shot. The Canada Bears are quite black, but not mischievous, for they never attack one, unless they be wounded or fir'd upon. They are so fat, especially in the autumn, that they can scarce walk: those which we killed were extreme fat, but their fat is good for nothing but to be burnt, whereas their flesh, and above all, their feet are very nice victuals.—The Indians affirm, that no flesh is so delicious as that of Bears; and indeed, I think they are right.

WHILE we rang'd up and down in quest of bears, we had the pleasure of spying some Martins and wild cats upon the branches of the trees, which the Indians shoot in the head to preserve their skin. But the most comical thing I saw, was the stupidity of the Woodpeckers, which sit upon the trees in whole flocks,

and are killed one after another, without ever offering to stir. Commonly the Indians shoot at them with the arrows, for they say they are not worth a shot of powder, which is able to kill an elk or an hart.

I have ply'd this sort of fowling in the neighbourhood of our cantons or habitation in the winter time, with the help of a dog who found out the trees by scent, and then bark'd; upon which I approached to the tree and found the fowls upon the branches.—

When the thaw came, I went two or three leagues further up the lake, on purpose to see that fowl flap with its wings; this is one of the greatest curiosities in the world, for the flapping makes a noise like that of a drum about, for the space of a minute or thereabouts; then the noise ceases for half a quarter of an hour, after which it begins again.

THE hunting of Elks is performed upon the snow, with rackets. These rackets are two feet and a half long, and fourteen inches broad; their ledges are made of a very hard wood, about an inch thick, that fastens the net just like a tennis racket, from which they differ only in this; that those for the tennis are made of gut-strings, whereas the others are made of little thongs of the skins of Hares or Elks. This is tied fast by two straps, the one run twice round about the heel, and every step they make upon the snow, the fore part of the foot sinks, as often as they raise the heel. By the help of this contrivance the

alk faster upon the snow, than one can do with shoes upon a beaten path: and indeed is so necessary for them, that it would be otherwise impossible to hunt and range the woods; for commonly the snow is three or four feet deep in that country during the winter. Being obliged to march upwards of twenty miles in the woods in pursuit of the above-mention'd animals, I found that the fatigue of the journey equalled the pleasure of it.

The Original is a sort of Elk, 'tis as big as an Auvergne Moxle, and much of the same shape, abating for its muzzle, its tail, and its great flat horns, which weigh sometimes 300, and sometimes 400 weight, if we may credit those who pretend to have weighed them.

This animal usually resorts to planted countries; its hair is long and brown, and the skin is strong and hard, but not thick. The flesh of the Original, especially that of the female sort, eats deliciously; and it is said that the far hind foot of the female kind, is a cure for the falling-sickness; it neither runs or skips, but its trot will almost keep up with the running of a Hart. The Indians assured us, that in summer 'twill trot three days and three nights without intermission.

This sort of animals commonly gather in a body towards the latter end of autumn; and the herds are largest in the beginning of the spring, at which time the she ones are in rutting

rutting, but after their heat is over, they disperse themselves. We hunted them in the following manner; first of all, we went four leagues to the northward of the river Laurence, where we found a little lake of 11 miles in circumference, and upon the banks of that lake, we made huts for ourselves of the bark of trees, having first clear'd the ground of the snow, that covered it. In our journey thither, we killed as many hares and wood-hens, as we could eat.

WHEN we had fitted up our huts, some of the Indians went out upon the discovery of the Elks, some to the northward, and some to the south, to the distance of 6 or 7 miles from the huts. As soon as they discovered any fresh foot-steps, they detached one of their number to give the rest notice, to the end that the whole company might have the pleasure of seeing the chase. We trac'd the footsteps for three or four miles, and then fired in with five, ten, fifteen or twenty elks in a body; which presently betook themselves to flight, whether a part or in a body, and fell into the snow up to their breast. Where the snow was hard and condensed, or where the frost following wet weather had glazed above, we came up with them after the chase of a mile: But when the snow was soft or fallen, we were forced to pursue them ten or eleven miles before we could catch them, unless the dogs happen'd to stop them where the snow was very deep. When we came up with

em, we fir'd upon them with fufees.

If the Elks be much enrag'd, they will turn on the Indians, who cover themselves with furs in order to keep off their feet, with which they would crush them to pieces. As soon as they are kill'd, the Indians make new fires upon the spot, with great fires in the middle; while the rest are employed in fleaing them, and stretching out the skins in the open air. One of the Indians that accompanied me, told me one day, to withstand the violence of the cold, one ought to have his blood composed of brandy, his body of brass, and his eyes of glass: and I must say, he had no ground for what he spoke, for we were forced to keep a fire all round us, all that night. As long as the flesh of these animals lasts, the Indians seldom think of stirring; but when it is all consumed, they then look out for a new discovery.

Thus they continue to hunt, 'till the snow and the Ice are melted; as soon as the great snow commences, it is impossible for them to travel far; so that they content themselves with the killing of hares and patridges, which are very numerous in the woods. When the rivers are clear of the ice, they make canoes of the elk skins, which they sew together very easily, covering the seams with a fat sort of earth instead of pitch. This work is over in four or five days time, after which they return home in the Canoes with all their baggage.

In this expedition we took fifty or sixty elk and might have kill'd twice as many, if we had hunted for the benefit of the skins. In the summer season, the Indians have two ways of killing them, both of which are equally troublesome. One consists in hanging a rope or gin between two trees, upon a path surrounded with thorns; the other is compassed by crawling like snakes among the trees and thickets, and approach to them upon the leeward side, so that they may be shot with a fusée. Harts and Caribons are killed both in summer and winter, after the same manner as the Elks; excepting that Caribons, which are a kind of wild asses, make an easy escape when the snow is hard, by virtue of their broad feet; whereas the Elk sinks as fast as he rises.

The season being now spent, it was in January we returned to the Indian town and loitered there in perfect indolence, until we had almost eat up every thing we had hunted for, long before the season approached that we could with convenience provide ourselves. Here my situation would have been very melancholy, but for an expedient I found upon, which removed if not entirely, yet greatly alleviated the distress I should otherwise have been involved in.

I invented traps for taking Beavers, which are the only animals that are to be found in plenty, amidst the vast snow which falls at this season of the Year. I took a great many

and of them frequently made a hearty repast. This animal is perhaps the most subtle of the irrational creation, and really deserves to be noticed in this or any other tract. They herd together by tribes, most commonly alike in number, and have their holes or rather houses upon the banks of a river, with the entrance under water, being as I take it, a kind of amphibious animals. There are generally twelve or thirteen distinct apartments in a beaver's hole, and are so intricately turned, that it is almost impossible to trace them; and being of a large compass, they support the earth by props of wood, entirely of their own contrivance, which they do in this manner, they search the adjacent woods for trees that will answer their purpose, and with their outer row of teeth they lop the branches of a certain length and thickness, then laying them upon their tails, they carry them to their dens.

THEY are furnished with two rows of teeth, the outer row being for the above mentioned use, and the inner one to chew their victuals. I had an opportunity of seeing one of their houses which fell, and it was in every article exactly what I have above described. They do not allow any of their community to be idle, turning out all those who are not useful. When they work, one of them is posted at a small distance, as a centinel to give the alarm, at any approaching danger, and the signal is generally a flap with its tail, be his station

either on land or water ; when this is done they will in the greatest hurry retire each to his respective apartment in the borough.

If these creatures were but sensible of the reason for which war is declared against them they would flea themselves alive ; for it is the skin that the huntsmen want, the value of the castor being nothing in comparison with the skin. A great Beaver is twenty-six inches long from the hind-head, to the root of the tail. 'Tis about three feet and eight inches round its head is seven inches long, and six broad its tail is fourteen inches long, and six broad and about the middle it has the thickness of an inch and two lines.

THE Beaver carries upon its tail the earth and other materials of which it makes their banks and kennels, or houses, by a wonderful instinct. Its ears are short, round and hollow ; its legs are five inches long the fore feet six inches and eight lines, and its hind feet are three inches and a half from the heel to the end of the great toe. Its paws are armed much like a man's hand, and they make use of them in feeding, as Apes do. The toes are joined like those of a Duck, with a membrane of a slate colour. Its eyes are of the lesser size, in proportion to the bulk of the body, and bear the figure of a Rat's eyes. Before its muzzle there are four fore-teeth cutters, viz. two in each jaw, as in a Rat, besides which it has sixteen grinders, eight in the upper, and as many in the lower.

dible. The cutters are above an inch
 , and quarter of an inch broad, being
 strong and sharp like a cutlas ; for a Bea-
 assisted by its associates, (if I may so call
 fellow Beavers) cuts down trees as big as a
 head ; which I could never have believ'd,
 had not observed with my own eyes, a-
 twenty trunks of trees cut down in that
 ion. A Beaver has two lays of hair ; one
 long, and of a shining black colour, with a
 in as big as that of man's hair ; the other
 fine and smooth, and in winter fifteen lines
 g : In a word, the last is the finest down
 the world,

In the spring the Indians go about a month
 physic and purify themselves after the man-
 of the ancient Jews, with certain herbs
 which they gather in the woods ; during
 which they do not cohabit with one another.
 soon as this was over, they began to form
 large scout against the Cherokees, with
 whom they were still at war. This party was
 composed of their best warriors, and was in
 number about forty, I was asked by several if
 I would go with them, I seemed exceeding
 glad of the offer, and immediately began pre-
 parations for this expedition. But my real
 design was to endeavour to make my escape,
 I was quite dissatisfied with my situation.
 When the day of rendezvous came, to my
 surprize I saw among them three more white
 men, who had been their prisoners from the
 beginning of the war. These men could talk

language, and were much better acquainted with their manners and customs than I was. We were not however allowed any intercourse with one another, the Indians being suspicious we would contrive and make our escape together.

We set out from the lower Shannese town and having cross'd the Ohio, we had a waddance, having our faces black'd, in token of the destruction and immediate death which we meant to give our enemies. We penetrated through vast tracks to the southward of the river, and had several skirmishes with the Cherokees, however nothing passed that was decisive on either side. I had great thoughts of making my escape at this period, but was so closely watched, I found it impracticable for some time; at length provisions growing scarce, the scout was obliged to divide for the more conveniently supplying our wants.

I had the good fortune to meet one of the white men, who was a prisoner as well as myself, about three miles from the camp; and to him I communicated my intentions, having first sounded him, I found he was not averse to my design, but seemed to be very apprehensive of the danger attending such an attempt. He urged that were we so unfortunate as to be re-taken, nothing but the most cruel and certain death would be the consequence. I answered all was in the hands of God, and encouraged him all in my power by telling him we could never have a better opportunity

portunity, the Indians being all out hunting, and there was no danger of our wanting, as we were both well arm'd, and had ammunition in plenty to provide ourselves with provisions; he at length acquiesced with me, and we set out immediately.

I questioned him, if he knew in what part of the continent we were, he answered that he could not tell, but knew perfectly where the english inhabitants were. We travelled three days and nights without intermission, and then took a little rest, being of opinion we were out of danger from them. We however continued our march for nine days longer, when we came to the banks of a deep and rapid river. Here we contrived a raft, and with paddles transported ourselves to the other side. We could not yet tell where we were, and were much afraid we should fall into the hands of some other Indians; we were therefore very cautious of firing, or making any other noise. In this manner we continued our march, and arrived on the banks of another river, which we passed in the same manner. From hence we travelled straight on, for the space of six days, when we came to a stream that runs the same course.

We travelled three days along the banks, and at last on the fourth day, we heard the sound of a bell, which we found was fastened to a horse belonging to some of the inhabitants. We also observed the track of shoes, which we followed, and to our great joy saw

a white man hunting; who when he perceived us, ran with all possible speed, being sure we were Indians. We halloed to him, but to no purpose, he added speed to his flight in such a manner, that had not my comrade who was very nimble, run him down, we could never have the least conversation with him. He expected upon his being overtaken, to have the tomohawk struck in his scull, but was agreeably deceived, when he found by our discourse that we were Englishmen. He told us we were upon the River Potomack, within a day's march of Fort Cumberland in the back settlements of Virginia and Maryland.

He then led us to his fire, where we found plenty of provisions, of which we eat heartily, and really we were in much want for we had tasted but little for four days before. The Virginian told us there were three more in company with him hunting, and that when they came, one of them should go and guide us to Fort Cumberland. They accordingly arrived in the evening, and brought some meat and plenty of skins, which they told us we were welcome to share with them.

THIS happened on the twentieth day of June 1759, being the 22d. day since ourelopement from the Indians. These men interrogated us much concerning our escape, and in what manner we fell into the hands of the Savages, to all which we gave satisfactory answers. Here my comrade indulged me with the story of his misfortunes, which the reader

will pardon me if I here insert. His name was David Owens, and was born on the river Canigagine, in the province of Pensilvania. His father was a substantial farmer, and besides him, had two sons and two daughters. In the beginning of the war in the year 1755, the Shanny Indians came down on a scout, the whole family of the Owens' were in a field adjoining to their house, reaping wheat when the Indians surrounded the field, fired upon them, and killed his two brothers and one of the servants. On which David and his father ran into the house, and kept the Indians at bay for more than an hour; the old man having killed one of them, so enraged the rest, that they instantly set fire to the house, on which he and his father fled, but were pursued, overtaken and made prisoners.

His two sisters being taken before, the Indians made the best of their way over the blue mountains, and when they found themselves out of danger, they satiated their lust on his sisters, and afterwards killed and scalped one of them, who seemed disconsolate for her misfortune; not satisfied with this, they exerted their utmost vengeance on his unhappy father, whom they instantly bound, and having cut a hole in his side, they took out his entrails, which they tied on a tree, and then scourged this miserable man round the same, until he dropt down, and was by the friendly hand of death, relieved from Miseries too great for any mortal to bear.—

Thus

Thus by the unparalleled cruelty of those savages, perished five unhappy persons, who had they been spared, might have lived useful members of the community to which they belonged.

DAVID and his sister they loaded with heavy burthens, and brought them to their town where his sister still remained. Next day one of the Virginians carried us to Fort-Cumberland; it was commanded by Major Livingston, who received us kindly, giving us brandy, liquor and victuals, and bestowed a blanket coat and a couple of shirts to each.

We staid here about eight days, when he gave us a pass with an order to draw provisions; we arrived at Bedford, where we drew three days provisions; which brought us to Fort Loudon, within four miles of my comrade's plantation, and the spot where he was taken prisoner. I went out with him to see on our return, he applied to Justice Smith for a fresh grant of the lands occupied by his father. Mr. Smith knew him perfectly well, soon granted his demand, and told him, there was no reason to apprehend any further danger from the Indians, as they had retired considerably further up the country.

I staid with my comrade for a week, when he was settled, when I took my leave, in order to join my regiment, and having drawn six days provisions at Fort Loudon, I travelled to Lancaster, within sixty miles of Philadelphia, where five companies of the

belonged to were quartered, I hastened to be
among them, but great was their joy and
surprise, when they saw me as one risen from
the dead, for they supposed I had been killed
among the Indians.

I was then clothed in the uniform of the
regiment, had all my pay and arrears paid
for, and was further particularly taken notice
of by my officers, which sufficiently reconciled
me to my fortune, and made my hardships
as mere trifles.

THE regiment was upon the point of be-
ginning their march, in order to take a part
in the campaign to the northward, against
Conderoga and Crown-Point, then in the
hands of the French; these forts were of
great consequence in the sequel; for the
French soldiers by so many repeated defeats,
came at last so timid, that but for their of-
fers, we had scarce to do any thing to pur-
sue the victory, but to attack them.

WE proceeded to New-York, there took
up for Albany, and from thence to Lake
George, without any thing occurring that is
worthy remark. We encamped upon the
bank, and were joined by the whole of the
troops destined for that service, which might
amount to about 1800 men, half of whom
were provincial. About the middle of Aug.
1759, we cross'd Lake George, and at our
landing, were opposed by some parties of
French and Indians, whom we put to flight,
the next day we came to the breast-work be-

fore Ticonderoga, famous for the defeat of the forces under General Abercrombie the year before, where the English lost no less than 1500 men, and were repulsed; our attempt however was more fortunate, for having carried it, we were enabled to carry on our attacks with the greater security,

FIVE days were spent in entrenching and erecting some batteries, but the French saved us the trouble of using them, for on the first night, they blew up their works, and marched away for Crown-point, which they likewise abandoned, and retreated to Montreal Lake-Champlain: this conduct of the French was the more surprising, as both these forts were capable of sustaining a considerable siege.

THE army remained at Ticonderoga about ten days, having left a garrison, they proceeded to Crown-point, where we were employed to build a large fort, 3000 men working every day, for the space of two months when it was finished, and for strength and beauty equalled any of its kind in America. It was called after the old fort Crown-point.

WHILE we lay here, an officer came from General Wolfe's army, and from the account he brought General Amherst, had firm hopes of General Wolfe's succeeding at Quebec; but in order to facilitate his success, was ready for an expedition against the island of St. John's, within 15 miles of Montreal. At the same time it was proposed, to send a force

volunteers under the command of the
ave Major Rogers, against a place called
Franzway, but this did not take place, 'till
er he returned from the intended reduction
St. John's.

GENERAL Amherst's scheme was to draw
the French further up from Quebec, in order
to lay that important fortress more open to
the attack of General Wolfe, but this he
could not effect, the French being too consci-
ous of its value, to leave it exposed, and in-
stead it would seem they were only solicitous
for its safety, having collected their whole
strength for its defence.

AFTER proceeding up Lake Champlain as
far as St. John's, the army return'd to Crown
Point, and the 27th regiment was left here in
garrison. Here the scout of volunteers was
assembled, and consisted of near an hundred
men; I went upon this party being stimula-
ted with the hope of revenge. Under the
conduct of Major Rogers, we set out for St.
Franzway, in whale boats on Lake Cham-
plain, and came very near Montreal; we
went into a small creek in the lake, hid
our whale boats, and with 23 days provisions
on our backs, proceeded over land to St.
Franzway.

THIS place was a den of the most mischie-
vous and inveterate Indian enemies the Eng-
lish ever had, and live in the back settlements
of Canada; numberless are the scenes of
bloodshed and rapine, these lawless savages

had committed upon our people, but that God a period was shortly put to their cruelty. It was now the latter end of November and the weather extreme cold, so that we were obliged to kindle fires every night, some measure to screen us from its severity this practice might have been fatal, by discovering us, but it seems the French and Indians were otherways employed.

WE penetrated through a vast track woody country, which lies to the north of Montreal, and after excessive fatigue, arrived at a place within seven miles of St. Francis; when a council was held, to consider in what manner we should proceed.

It was determined, that we should march to the town that night, and lie by until the morning at dawn, and then our orders were to proceed by two and two, and place ourselves severally at each house, and on the ringing of a shot by way of signal from Major Rogers, we were to fire the town at once and kill every one without mercy.

THIS being the result of the consultation we set out to put it in execution, we accordingly proceeded and came so near, that we could distinguish the inhabitants were at war-dance, having just returned from such a scene of blood, as was then preparing themselves. They were a mixture of French and Indians, and had really been guilty of the most unheard-of cruelties; when morning dawn'd, we went into the town

and took our stations by two's, but by accident one of the men's pieces went off, which made us begin without the right signal.

THE alarm however took place, and in less than a quarter of an hour the whole town was in a blaze, and the carnage terrible, hardly any of the enemy escaping; those whom the flames did not devour, were either shot or tomohawk'd. The whole was reduced to ashes in about an hour; thus the inhumanity of these savages was rewarded with calamity, dreadful indeed, but justly deserved. This was I believe the bloodiest scene in all America, our revenge being completed.

THIS being over, we rendezvoused at the place appointed, and to our happiness had not a man missing, only two or three a little hurt; we then held another council, and it was agreed for our mutual safety, to divide into three parties and so make the best of our way to the english settlements, it happened I was one of Major Rogers' party consisting of 25 men.

We set out immediately on our journey for New-England, and in the evening, fell in with four Indians and a Squaw, loaded with provisions from St. Franfway; we dispatched the four Indians, but spared the Squaw, who was afterwards of great service to us, being able to carry more than any three men amongst us. We marched very hard for four days, knowing well, that we should have all the

the French and Indians in the country about us, when it should come to their knowledge that we had destroyed St. Francisway. We however made so good use of the start we had got, that none ever came up with us, tho' we learned they were upon the pursuit.

WE continued this journey for eight days when our provisions being almost spent, we encamped and went to hunt for three days but we succeeded badly, killing very little. we then removed and made short marches being so much afflicted with the cold and hunger which we now began to feel in an intolerable degree, the deepness of the snow and the swampiness of the country, made it impossible for us to stir for several days. During this miserable period, we were obliged to scrape under the snow for acorns, and even to eat our shoes and belts, and broil our powder-horns and thought it delicious eating.

I remember, I was overjoy'd when I found a number of bushes with plenty of buds upon them, to satiate my hunger; here was nothing but every one staring in another's face, and the event of death seemed unavoidable. But the goodness of providence ordered it otherwise as you will hear in the sequel. The snow began to melt, and we could walk a little, but not knowing where we were, we were obliged to traverse on chance but this we effected poorly, the extreme fatigue and the want of something to eat brought

bought such weakness among us, that we were forced to leave two or three behind us every morning, they being unable to proceed any farther.

We always left them some firing, and if there was any thing eatable among us left a part, but this was seldom the case; self preservation being every man's part, we generally left them with the less regret: however we never heard of any thus left that survived. As for the squaw, she bore it nobly, and was of infinite service in gathering roots and herbs, which she was the better acquainted with, as she was bred among such hardships, as we could by no means support long continuance of. She was plump and stout, having more flesh upon her than five of us, and Major Rogers several times proposed to make away with her, but we would never consent to it.

We were now become jealous of the Major leaving us, and what confirmed us in this opinion was, that he was stronger, and of better spirits than any of us. We were so positive in this opinion, that we would hardly allow him to go out of our sight.

We were now reduced to ten in number, weak and starved in such a manner, that was like an English farmer to behold such wretches, he would say we were fairly struck; in short, we were in the greatest extremity, when the major, who I have observed was stronger than any of us, followed the squaw who was gone out

out to gather roots, and there he kill'd, and cut her up, and brought her to our fire, where he divided and cast lots for the share, which were distributed to each an equal part; we then broiled and eat the most of her; and received great strength thereby; then made shift to walk, but the snow was so deep on day's march was very little.

OUR provisions being again out, we were out of all hopes of ever coming to the English settlements; when Major Rogers putting on his rockets or snow shoes, which was the only pair among us, went hunting, in order if possible to procure us some relief. He was scarce able for this attempt, thro' his long abstinence, and most probably would have perished. Whether he had any intention of ever returning to us I know not, but Providence made him the means of bringing us relief, for 'tho we were quite ignorant of the place we were in, yet No. 4, a small fort at the back settlements of New-England, was within 18 miles of us, and the Major had not been long out, 'till he was agreeably surpris'd with hearing a shot, he immediately used the speed he could, to come up with the person who fired, and by good fortune fell in with a man belonging to the before-mentioned No. 4, who had come out to hunt, and he killed a large deer with the same shot that he discovered him to the Major.

THE Hunter was extremely surpris'd to find a man in such a woeful plight, as the Major

was, and could scarcely believe it could
 him, having heard that his whole party
 perished among the snow. He however,
 not hesitate long, but brought the two
 quarters, and came along with the Ma-
 to where we lay. We were all full of
 thankfulness to the Almighty, for this season-
 e relief, and began to enquire of our be-
 actor, if he had heard any thing concer-
 g our companions. He told us that they
 ered greatly, before they arrived at Crown
 nt, and having left us the venison, set out
 No. 4, in order to bring us farther relief.
 Next day he brought us (being reduced to
 en) on horseback to the Fort, so that du-
 g the course of this fatiguing and tedious
 of ch, we lost eighteen men. Here we all
 a severe fit of sickness, and were used
 us in the greatest lenity and kindness, by the
 of the officer who commanded; by God's assistance
 got all safe over it, and in a little time be-
 to gather so much strength as to walk a-
 ad.

was now the latter end of January 1760,
 in orders came from the governor of Con-
 necticut in New-England, for us to come
 to the inhabitants, which we did when
 were thoroughly recovered. Upon our
 val here, we were shewed all the regard
 ginable, by the governor, who seemed to
 e himself in conferring favours upon us.
 ordered us linen and cloaths, and bestow-
 plentiful allowance of provisions to us.

that we might the sooner recruit from our fatigues, which we did effectually in about two months, when we set out in order to join our respective regiments.

I cannot help acknowledging, that I felt sincere regret at parting with the brave Major Rogers, who, whatever may have influenced his actions since, was when I knew him an enterprising, hardy soldier, and really deserved better usage from the English.

I soon join'd my company at Claverhoe on the north river, in the province of New York, where the regiment was canton'd. I had a very easy life for about six weeks more, when the whole army was ordered to prepare for another campaign, which was destined for Oswego up the Mohawk-river.

EVERY thing being got ready, we set out for Albany, in the province of New-York, where we rendezvoused under the command of General Amherst. It was now the latter end of June 1760, and the provincial troops being all come up, I had the pleasure of seeing my old friend Major Rogers, who still the command of his rangers.

WE set out for the Mohawk-river, and arrived at Fort-Ontario, on the lake of the same name, where we stop't 'till some small ships were built, and a number of Battoes were built, one to transport us over the lake, and the other to facilitate our operations against Oswego-athie, lying at the head of the river Lawrence. The provincials had great

in bringing up provisions, the wood-creek
 ing very low, and having to drag their
 battoes in four inches water, which retarded
 longer than we expected.

It was far in the season before all things
 were ready, however we at last embarked,
 and entered the lake and began our operations a-
 gainst the fort, which we reduced in a few
 days, with very little trouble. We garrison-
 ed it and prepared to go down the falls of
 Lawrence, which run with great rapidity
 and are extremely dangerous: but we had
 the good fortune to have a guide who knew
 the falls perfectly, and he in a whale boat, in
 company with the General, proceeded in our
 front, the rest of the battoes followed in a di-
 rect line. Six men was the compliment to a
 batto, and they occupied her as follows; one
 at the helm, while four rowed, and ano-
 ther sat in the bow, in order to break the
 waves, that arose by the great current of the
 stream.

I saw now above an hundred canoes, some
 great and some little; but considering that
 the former are only proper for martial expe-
 ditions, and long voyages, I will confine my
 description to that sort. Even the great ones
 are of different sizes; for they run from ten
 to twenty eight feet long. Indeed the least
 will hold but two persons set upon their
 knees, as in a coffin; and are apt to over-
 turn, if the passengers move to one side or the
 other: But those of a larger size will easily

afford stowage for fourteen persons ; though they are commonly manned only with three men, when they are employed in transporting provisions and merchandize ; and even then they will carry twenty hundred weight. The largest sort are safe and steady, when they are made of the bark of the birch-tree, which comes off with hot water in the winter time. The greatest trees afford the best bark for canoes ; but oftentimes the bark of one tree is not sufficient. The bottom of the boat is all of one piece, to which the sides are artfully sewed by the Indians, that the whole boat appears as one continued bark. The ribs are trimmed and strengthened with wicker wreaths, and ribs of cedar-wood, which are almost as light as cork ; the wreaths are as thick as a crown piece ; but the bark has the thickness of two crowns, and the ribs are as thick as three.

On the two sides of the boat, there run from one end to the other two principal wicker bars, in which the ends of the ribs are chased, and in which the spars are made fast that run a-cross the boat and keep it compact. These boats have twenty inches in depth, that is, from the upper edge to the platform of the ribs ; their length extends to twenty eight feet, and the width at the middle rib is computed to be four foot, and a half. They are very convenient upon the account of their extreme lightness, and the drawing of very little water ; but at the same time their

and tender fabrick, is an argument of an
 rivalent inconveniency; for if they do but
 such or grate upon stone or sand, the cracks
 the bark fly open, upon which the water
 gets in, and spoils the provisions and mer-
 andize: Every day there is some new chink
 seam to be gummed over. At night they
 are always unloaded, and carried on shore
 where they are made fast with pegs, lest the
 wind should blow them away: For they are
 so light, that two men carry them upon their
 shoulders with ease. This conveniency of
 lightness and easy carriage, renders them
 very serviceable in the rivers of Canada, which
 are full of cataracts, water-falls, and cur-
 rents: For in these rivers we are obliged ei-
 ther to transport them over land where such
 obstructions happen, or else to tow them along
 where the current is not over rapid, and the
 shore is accessible.

THESE boats are of no use for the naviga-
 tion of lakes; for the waves would swallow
 them up, if they could not reach the shore
 when the wind arises. 'Tis true, the inha-
 bitants venture in them for four or five leagues,
 from one island to another; but then 'tis al-
 ways in calm weather, and nothing is made
 use of but oars; for besides the risque of be-
 ing over-set, the goods are in danger of be-
 ing damaged by the water, especially the furs,
 which are the most valuable of the cargo.
 When the season serves, they carry little sails;
 but if the wind be but a little brisk, though
 they

they run right before it, 'tis impossible to make any use of it without running the risk of shipwreck. If their course lies directly south, they cannot put up sail except the wind stands at one of the eight points, between north-west and north-east; and if wind happens to spring any where else, (unless it comes from the land which they coast along) they are obliged to put in to the shore with all possible expedition, and unload the boat out of hand, till such time as a calm returns.

As for the working of these boats, the canoe-men ply sometimes on their knees, namely, when they run down the small water falls; sometimes standing, when they steer a current by setting the boat along with poles and sometimes sitting, viz. in smooth and stagnating water. The oars they make use of are made of maple-wood, the blade of which is twenty inches long, six inches broad, and four inches thick: The handle is about three feet long, and as big as a pigeons egg.

WHEN they have occasion to run up against rapid currents, they make use of poles made of pine wood; and the setting of the boat long with these, is what they call *Piquetage*. The canoes have neither stern nor prow, for they run to a point at both ends. Neither have they keels, nails or pegs, in the whole structure. The steersman, or he who conns the boat, rows without interruption well as the rest. The common purchase

of those canoes is about eighty crowns ; and they seldom last above five or six years most.

THE rest of the army proceeded by land towards Montreal. We lost an hundred men on our passage down this river, which was occasioned, by their not being careful to keep their boats in the right channel, which can only be distinguished by the smoothness of the surface, and it is always fatal to any who deviate from this rule. Here you will run 15 miles in 15 minutes, and if you offer to turn out of this current, which you would imagine would precipitate you in ruin, nothing but being dash'd to pieces, and unavoidably lost will be the consequence.

WE were forced to run all hazards, and had certainly been swallowed up in those mountains of water, if we had not obliged several canoes to shoot the cataracts at the head of our boats, in order to shew us the way ; at the same time we had prepared ourselves for rowing and shieving upon occasion. The currents run as fast as a cannon-ball ; and the false stroke of the oar, would have run us upon the rocks ; for we were obliged to steer a zig-zag course pursuant to the thread of the stream, which has fifty windings. But after all, tho' the risque we run, was very great, yet by way of compensation, we had the satisfaction of running a great way in a short time.

THE French never dreamt, of our making this

this attempt, having lost one thousand men in this passage, after they had taken the English fort at Oswego. We got at last into still water, and within a few miles of Montreal. Here the French were surrounded on all sides for General Amherst had so concerted his scheme of operations, that the three armies met in their neighbourhood in one day, that of General Murray from Quebec, General Haviland from Crown-point, (having reduced St. John's in their way,) and his own from Oswego.

We landed within cannon-shot of the city and expected the French would have given us a warm reception, but they surprised us agreeably, by surrendering without firing a gun, and by their pusillanimous conduct completed the reduction of all Canada, a province for its importance and extensive trade, not the smallest jewel in the British diadem.

HERE I had the pleasure of seeing 7 regiments of French, besides Canadian forces surrender their arms to his Britannick majesty's troops. The stores were searched, and in the governor's house, in which was found a large room full of scalps, which the French had taken during the war, from the Indians, which they encouraged in this infamous practice, by paying a reward of near five pounds sterling for each; a proof of the great power the French had, in stimulating these ignorant creatures, to the committal of these unheard

barbarities, exercised with such rage upon
fellow-subjects in America, during the
course of the preceding and last Wars.

After the reform of the French troops, several ships were sent hither from France, with a cargo of women of an ordinary reputation, under the direction of some old stale nuns, who ranged them in three classes. The vestal virgins were heap'd up, (if I may so speak) above another, in three different apartments, where the bridegrooms singled out their brides, just as a butcher does an ewe amongst a flock of sheep.

In these three seraglios, there was such variety and change of diet, as could satisfy most whimsical appetites; for here was the big some little, some fair some brown, the fat and some meagre. In fine, there was such accommodation, that every one might be fitted to his mind: And indeed the market had such a run, that in fifteen days they were all disposed of. I am told, the fattest went off best, upon the apprehension that these being less active, would be truer to their engagements, and hold better against the nipping cold of the winter: But after all, a great many of the adventurers found themselves mistaken in their measures.

HOWEVER, let that be as it will, it affords a very curious remark, namely, that in some parts of the world to which the vicious European women are transported, the mob of those

countries does seriously believe, that their faces are so defaced by the ridiculous christenings used by the sailors at sea, that they are looked upon ever after as ladies of virtue, of honour, and of an untarnish'd conduct of life.

THE sparks that wanted to be married made their addresses to the before-mentioned governesses; to whom they were obliged to give an account of their goods and estates before they were allowed to make their choice in the three seraglios. After the choice was determin'd, the marriage concluded upon a spot, in the presence of a priest, and a public notary; and the next day the governor-general bestow'd upon the married couple, a bull, a cow, a hog, a sow, a cock, a hen, two barrels of salt meat, and eleven crowns.

IN this country every one lives in a good and a well furnish'd house; and most of the houses are of wood, and two stories high. Their chimnies are very large, by reason of the prodigious fires they make to guard themselves from the cold, which is there beyond all measure, from the month of December to that of April. During that space of time the river is always frozen over, notwithstanding the flowing and ebbing of the sea; the snow upon the ground, is three or four feet deep; which is very strange in a country that lies in the latitude of forty seven degrees and some odd minutes. Most people impute the extraordinary snow to the number of mountains, with which this vast continent

repleat

plenish'd. Whatever is in that matter, must take notice of one thing, which seems very strange, namely, that the summer days are longer here than in England.—The weather is then so clear and serene, that three weeks time a cloud cannot be seen in the Horizon.

THE way of travelling in the winter, whether in town or country, is that of sledges drawn by horses; who are so insensible of the cold, that I have seen fifty or sixty of them in January and February stand in the snow up to their breast, in the midst of a wood, without ever offering to go near their owner's side. In the winter-time they travel from Quebec to Montreal upon the ice, the river being then frozen over; and upon that occasion these sledges will run fifteen leagues a day. Others have their sledges drawn by two stiff dogs, but then they are longer by the way.

HERE Major Rogers was ordered to go and take possession of Fort Detroit, and Michilimackinac on the Lakes Erie and Superior, but the corps not being compleated, he obtained the consent of the General, to take what number he might have occasion for. The Major did not forget me, but I was very easy about em- ployment in this expedition, for I was heartily tired of these Indian excursions, however he promised to enroll me, among his Rangers, which he said would in some measure recompence me for any extra fatigue, the pay of

one of his corps being half a crown York currency per day, which with my regular pay would amount to 2s. 2d. sterling.

WE set out from Montreal the 12th of September 1760, in seven light whale boats, and two bark canoes, and had in company some French and a few Indians, who were present at the capitulation of Montreal. We had an extreme difficult task to draw our boats up the river St. Lawrence, which we however effected, and proceed by Fort Caterockwa which was taken in the year 1758 by Colonel Bradstreet. As I design as far as my weak capacity will permit, to attempt describing the Lakes Erie, Ontario, and Superior, with the creeks, islands, and other curiosities; I think it will not be improper in this place, to give the reader some idea of them, by informing him that it was during this excursion under Major Rogers, to take possession of Detroit that I had the opportunity of seeing them.

AND first we shall begin with Lake-Ontario, which lies between Canada and Louisiana, it is 150 miles in length, 50 broad, and about 500 miles in circumference. About the middle of this lake, there are three large forts, the strongest, which is built of wood stands upon the ground, which old Oswego formerly was built upon, and is capable of containing a thousand men. Oswego is surrounded with a mud-wall, and situated in a small island on the extremity of the river St. Lawrence, and at the north end of the lake Ontario.

FORT Caterockway lies on the west side of the lake, and was, as I have observed, destroyed by Col. Bradstreet. There is a large bay here for vessels, and opposite the bay a small island, where half a tribe of Indians lives; this place had a considerable trade, when the French had it in their possession, but it is now dwindled away to nothing.— Col. Bradstreet burned three large vessels here, and entirely ruined the fortifications.

FORT Niagara lies on the south-east part of the lake, just as you enter into the river of that name which has its source from Lake Erie; the fortifications are good, and are built of mud and sods, which however cannot be durable.

THIS fort used to be supplied with provisions, with infinite trouble from Fort Caterockway, the only place with which it has communication; it was reduced by General Johnson, General Burdox who commanded in chief, being killed by the bursting of a Coshorn. Lake Ontario might be of great utility to the English, as it is navigable for large vessels, and has some convenient bays and harbours upon it, in particular at Fort-Ontario and Niagara, there are harbours capable of containing considerable fleets with safety.

HERE I cannot refuse myself the pleasure of informing the reader, that I saw that amazing piece of the creation, I mean the great falls of Niagara, the largest cataract in the world. The whole force of Lake Erie, drawn

drawn into the strictness of a large river, forming a mass of water, which falls 300 feet perpendicular; we went through under the water to the other side quite dry. And I can assure you, tho' I have heard the thunder imitated in the field, that it was no way comparable to the noise that this immense body makes in its fall. You would not hear the report of a cannon, was it fired at the bottom. I was absolutely deaf for 24 hours after I had left the falls. Over this immense cataract there is a continual mist and small rain, occasioned, I suppose by the quick passage of the water, when a part of it rarifies and becomes a cloud which is continually hanging over it, and may be seen 50 nay sometimes 100 miles distant, at least our whole company could discern it, when we had proceeded half way up lake Erie.

As for the Waterfall 'tis seven or eight hundred feet high, and half a league broad. Towards the middle of it we descry an island that leans towards the precipice, as if it were ready to fall. All the beasts that cross the water within half a quarter of a league above this unfortunate island, are suck'd in by the force of the stream: And the beasts and fish that are thus killed by the prodigious fall serve for food to fifty Iroquese, who are settled about two leagues off, and take them out of the water with their canoes. Between the surface of the water that shelves off prodigiously, and the foot of the precipice, there

men may cross in a breast without any other damage, than a sprinkling of some few drops of water.

THE Lake Erié is the finest Lake upon earth. You may judge of the goodness of the climate, from the latitudes of the countries that surround it. Its circumference extends to two hundred and thirty leagues; but it affords every where such a charming prospect, that its banks are deck'd with oak-trees, elms, chesnut-trees, walnut-trees, apple-trees, plum-trees, and vines which bear their fine clusters up to the very tops of the trees, upon a sort of ground that lies as smooth as one's hand. Such ornaments as these, are sufficient to give rise to the most agreeable idea of a landscape in the world. I cannot express what vast quantities of deer and turkeys are to be found in these woods, and in the vast meads that lye upon the south side of the lake. At the bottom of the lake, we find wild beeves upon the banks of two pleasant rivers that disembogue into it, without cataracts or rapid currents. It abounds with sturgeon and white fish; but trouts are very scarce in it, as well as the other fish that we take in the Lakes of Huron and Illenois. 'Tis clear of shelves, rocks, and banks of sand; and has fourteen or fifteen fathom water. The savages assure us, that 'tis never disturbed with high winds, but in the months of December, January, and February, and even then but seldom, which indeed I am ve-

ry apt to believe, for we had but very few storms.

BETWEEN Lake-Ontario, and Lake-Erie, there is a carrying place (as it is called in the language of travellers,) where we had to carry our boats for nine miles, upon our shoulders, and our provisions upon poles, four men to each barrell; there being no horses as yet sent to the garrison. After you have passed the Carrying-place, you have twenty miles of a river, which brings you to Lake Erie at a place called little Niagara. We got over our whole party safe, and then proceeded about 20 miles into the Lake, which is very shallow, and consequently there is a great sea when there is any storm.

DURING our passage upon this Lake, we were wind-bound frequently six or seven days together, we never durst let our boats remain in the water at night, as they would have been dashed to pieces by the surf; so we were obliged to haul to shore every night and unload our boats. When you have got about one hundred miles up the lake, you meet with a long range of high-lands, which is very dangerous in passing, for if a storm should rise, your boats will inevitably be dashed in pieces, and every soul lost; because the shore is so rugged, that it is impossible for any person to climb it, being very steep, and straight as a stone-wall. When you have passed this you arrive at a very convenient creek, where your boats may lie in safety, and you refresh

er the fatigue, which we did not fail to

You then proceed to Point La-Grant, or the Long-point which extends itself into the lake near ten leagues. But small boats have need to sail round it, because there is a small creek, which runs nearly cross the point, you are fortunate enough to find this opening, it saves a deal of trouble, and after hauling your boats about 40 yards, you get into the lake on the other side of the Point. You then proceed, and have another ridge of high lands to pass, as dangerous as the former.— Here the French lost an hundred men, and a great quantity of provisions, and in memorial of those who met this catastrophe, they have erected grave-stones with crosses, and the names of some of the most eminent among those who were drown'd.

FROM this place in a clear day, you may see the falls of Niagara. We proceeded on this lake some days, when the wind served, we made sails of our blankets, and would sail farther in one day than we could row in three; we arrived at another neck of land, which we likewise haul'd our boats over, and upon this spot were met by a party of French Indian traders loaded with furs, going to Canada. We should have had an engagement with them, if we had not told our French guide, to satisfy them with respect to the English conquest of Canada, which they would hardly believe, however some of them in con-

sequence of the news, returned with us to Detroit.

HERE I found that the French traders had a passage to Canada and Detroit, without going past Niagara falls. There is a small creek which runs due west, and terminates in a river, when you have got to the end of it, you carry over your canoes for the length of half a mile, into another creek which runs north and empties itself into the lake Ontario, and then proceed upon the north side of the lake leaving Niagara. The English are quite ignorant of this passage, and the French still carry on this trade with the Canadians.

WE had now company, and plenty of provisions to carry us to Detroit; we at last came to the mouth of Detroit river, which has its source in the river Huron, a small lake on the other side of Detroit. I must now here omit giving the reader a sketch of the other side of lake Erie. The land on the south side is extremely good, and abounds in game, in particular there are vast numbers of large Buffaloes; there are several small creeks for boats or canoes.

THIS side of the lake would make a fine country, if inhabited, where they might have vessels of 200 tons burthen, and carry on an extensive and valuable trade, especially the Fur branch might be brought to the greatest perfection; and on this side there is an Indian castle, and a whole tribe of Indians, living in a small Island about 12 miles in length, and

in breadth; the French had a small Block-house here to support the Indian trade, from this Block-house there is another called Presbitt, where one company lies from this Block-house. The French had a communication to Fort Duquesne, on the river Ohio. The mouth of Detroit River is 12 miles below the Fort.

LAKE Erie is the next largest to Superior, and is three hundred leagues in circumference. The French carried their provisions and boats over a carrying place, of 15 miles, from Presbitt into the Bell river, which in English, signifies the beautiful river, and so down that river to the Allegany, and from thence to the Ohio, by which they had a communication from Canada to New Orleans on the Mississippi. There you might see how the French and the English hemmed in, upon all their provinces. The French had Forts built upon a line, on all our back settlements, from Canada at the mouth of the river St. Lawrence, to the bay of Mexico.

THEY might easily tell the ignorant indians, they would drive the English into the sea, but providence ordered it otherwise, for we sent our troops over seas, and treated them with more humanity than they deserved; for general De-Quat, when he engaged the English at Lake George, had orders (if he should get the better) to kill all without mercy, but general Johnson routed him, and took him prisoner, and totally destroyed the army, that

was destined to butcher all the inhabitants of the New-York government.

At length we arrived at Fort-Detroit on the 6th of November. The town is surrounded by a stockade with some small guns. The French soldiers set out for Canada, and we took possession of the fort and stores.

HERE we found on the flag-staff, a scull and a crow picking it. The French told us it was the major Rogers's, but they knew that major Rogers was with us. They said they had shewed it, in order to let us see, how they would serve him, had he fallen into their hands. There are about 15 miles on both sides of this river, well inhabited, and from them the garrison get the most of their provisions; but while they were under the French government, his most christian majesty had the third of their property, which they now are in the sole possession of; a striking proof of the difference between a free and independent people, and an abject multitude.

THIS is really a charming country, equal to England itself; the climate here is very mild, it being hardly known that snow ever lay above 24 hours at a time. There are several nations of Indians live within ten miles of Detroit, who gave a great deal of trouble, being obliged to buy their peace with presents and large quantities of liquor, of which they are excessive fond. We delivered them a peace belt, and what other presents we had, with a gallon of rum to each family;

en got drunk, and committed a great many
cesses; they had also several war-dances.—
e were very careful to let them have their
n way, for if they had a mind for cross
rposes, we were only a handfull among
em.

PEACE being settled with the Indians, a
rty was ordered to relieve Michilimakinac,
small fort upon lake Superior; this fort lies
out 300 leagues from Detroit, which is a-
ut 800 miles from New-York, and as far
om Philadelphia. Lieut. Wister was sent
th 42 men to take possession of it. This
rty set out from Detroit the latter end of
ovember 1760, with their whale boats, some
noes, and a few French and Indians going
the Illinois, a country on the Mississipi,
soon came to lake Huron, which is a small
e about 30 miles in length, and in three
ys came into lake Superior, which is very
ep and black, and so still that the waters
rcefully move, except in a storm. Here any
p in the navy might sail hundreds of miles,
th great safety, for there is a number of
nvenient bays and harbours.

UPON the banks there is a fine level coun-
ry, and plenty of all kinds of game. There
have been seen elks, and overgrown deer, full as
ge as any ordinary horse, Buffaloes and
d turkies in great plenty, and beavers past
umber; this country if rightly inhabited,
ould be very convenient for every branch of
ade, and so capacious, that it would easily
contain

contain all the inhabitants in Ireland, upon the country round the lake, which is computed to be 1500 miles in circumference. From hence furs are sent in great quantities every year into old France.

THIS vast continent may be justly called new world, there being land enough to contain all the people in Europe, and part of Africa; and if there was people to be spared to inhabit it, would become a more formidable world than ever was conquer'd by an Alexander.

WE arrived at Michilimakinac the 20th January 1761, and relieved a French officer and 20 men who immediately set out for the Illinois, it being nearer than Canada; the Fort is built upon the east side of Superior, consists of a Stockade, and is but of a small force. Here the French carry their boats and baggage over a carrying place for about 100 miles, into a small river that empties itself into the Mississippi, and then they have a communication with the Illinois and new Orleans. I went hunting here as far as the Snake island upon lake Superior. This island is so full of Snakes of all kinds, that you may hear them hiss a quarter of a mile from the Island. The Indians went on shore, and charged me not to stir out of the canoe; I accordingly obeyed their orders, and after I had been some time there, one of the Indians came to me with a large rattle snake on the point of his spear, he cut off the head, and having ripped open, presented me with the heart, and me

swallow it yet alive, telling me it was a
 arm against all snakes, and that none of
 m would ever after attempt to do me the
 st injury.

I then came ashore and hunted untill night,
 ould feel the heart leap within me untill the
 n was down; whether this be a real charm
 not, I cannot tell, but this I aver, that I
 ver was bit by any snake after, tho' I had
 n several times before. Soon after this we
 re relieved by a party of the Royal Ame-
 ans, the first battallion, and returned to
 troit in May, by the south side of lake
 e, to the falls of Niagara; here I shall re-
 e an accident that happened to a Negro
 his Squaw. Having been at little Nia-
 a to see some friends, they had got drunk,
 attempting to cross, thro' intoxication,
 re unable to paddle their canoe properly, so
 t the stream carried them forcibly along;
 ling they could not recover themselves,
 y very sagaciously threw their blankets over
 r heads, went headlong over the fall, and
 re never more heard of.

MAJOR Rogers had now got a captaincy in
 regulars, as a reward for his services,
 ch caused him to make all the haste he
 ld, in order to join his corps. Nothing
 terial happening, I shall only inform the
 der, that we reached Albany the 1st. of
 y 1761, where we remained a considerable
 e, and had rest from our labour, which
 relished greatly after so much fatigue;
 here

here we enjoyed a honey-moon, for we had all our back pay given to us, which, though we earned hardly, we spent merrily, and verified the old proverb, "got like horses and fed like asses." The plan of operations being concerted for that year, it appeared that at Martinico, the grand manœuvre was to be performed, preparative to which a camp was formed upon Statin island, opposite to New York. The troops from the back settlements were drawn to this camp, and took up a considerable time in getting ready.

PART of the regiment I served in was sent to Dominico, to reduce that island, which after a small resistance surrendered. The troops being arrived from Britain, the whole rendezvoused at Barbadoes, where the fleet waited and set sail for Fort-Royal in Martinique. But as these matters are quite recent to many, and have been treated of at large, by several who have wrote the history of the war; I think to dwell too long upon them, would in no means answer the end of this Tract: I shall therefore only hint at them, and remark the particulars in which any thing worthy notice happened to myself.

THE siege of Fort-Royal lasted for 6 weeks and then it surrendered, the greatest loss sustained was upon the 15th January, which was the day that the French got their death stroke in the West-Indies. I had the good fortune to take a French officer prisoner in this engagement, and was rewarded with

ars, being the sum allowed for taking pri-
 ers. This siege ended greatly to the ho-
 nor of general Moncton, and all the forces;
 upon this occasion, behaved with the
 greatest courage and unanimity. The brigade
 under general Haviland deserves particular
 notice, and the knowledge of the general in
 art of engineering, contributed greatly to
 success of the expedition. The climate
 very fatal to the troops, and the whole ar-
 my was visited with sickness, but neither this,
 nor any other danger which could present it-
 self, was able to allay that ardor and desire of
 glory, which seemed to reign predominant
 through the whole.

REINFORCEMENTS having arrived from Bri-
 tain, the whole began preparations to besiege
 Havannah, situated upon the island of
 Cuba. This expedition was conducted by the
 duke of Albemarle. Every one knows the
 difficulty that attended the British forces upon
 this enterprize, which glorious as it was, cost
 the lives of many brave individuals, even
 the publick losses were sustained. The army
 in particular, was reduced to a very small
 number, when the place surrendered; the in-
 fantry did not escape me, and had like to have
 sent me off. I was sent with a number
 of men, on board the hospital ship, for the re-
 medy of my health, where for want of fresh
 food and room to stir, they almost all died; the
 men were scarce sufficient to bury the dead,
 so you might see the corps thrown overboard

by half dozens in a day, so that the sea was covered with dead bodies, for the Sharks (which there are great plenty) to prey upon.

THE place having surrendered, we were ordered (I mean the sick) to sail for New York on the continent, for the recovery of health, and even here vast numbers died as we landed.

I had the good fortune to get a very handsome woman for my landlady who took great care of me, nourished me with every thing that was salutary, and by the blessing of God with her assistance I soon recovered. My disorder was of the putrid kind, attended with a terrible swelling all over my body, and as soon as that subsided I was perfectly recovered. All the sick were billeted in the long ward, which is intirely inhabited by the people called Quakers, to whom we paid four shillings per week for our board. While I was on Long Island, I had intelligence that Mr. Rogers was in great distress, being a prisoner in the common goal for debt, and in want of every necessary of life; I went to New York to see him, and he was extremely glad to find I was alive, we concerted a scheme together for his escape, which was soon after put into execution, and he was set upon a good horse and got money in his pockets to carry him any where.

HE was soon after made governor of the territory, and a war breaking out with the Indians to the westward, our company began

necessary in those parts, for altho' the peace between Britain, France, and Spain had been concluded some time before, yet there was no peace for us, but the horrors of a war, and with a savage cruel enemy to encounter.

THE Indians had already destroyed some of our back settlements, and had entirely block'd all the avenues to Fort Pitt, in which they also mewed up a number of traders, and there was no place for want of provisions in the most extremity. The reason given by the Indians for this war, is as follows, viz.

THAT contrary to the treaty, by which all the land to the east of the Allegany mountains was consigned to the governor of Pennsylvania, and all the land to the west of said mountains was left in the possession of the Indians for their hunting ground; contrary to which, some of the English had seized upon, and built plantations, which the Indians resisted against without effect, in consequence of which they raised their war-hatchet, and vowed revenge upon all White people without distinction.

In order to force relief to the inhabitants at Fort Pitt, the remains of the 1st and 2d battalions of Royal Highlanders, and the rest of our regiment were form'd into one regiment, and might consist of about 300 men. In this small army we set out for the Province of Pennsylvania, and marched with the most expeditious, 'till we reached Carlisle

100 miles above Philadelphia, where we arrived the 19th of July 1763, and waited for an escort of 1500 pack-horses laden with flour, 500 bullocks, and a few sheep.

THIS convoy was destined for Fort-Mifflin, which, as I have observed was block'd up by the Indians, and 300 of the inhabitants, besides the garrison, in a starving condition. We were here join'd by 50 men from Virginia, and some of the Royal American militia, which reinforcement made our strength 400.

WE proceeded with our convoy to Bedford, which the Indians had also blocked up, and retired upon our approach: we remained there just so long as was necessary to relieve our wants; and continued our march to Fort-Mifflin, about 50 miles from Fort-Pit. Before we had certain information, that the Indians would attack us, so took what precautions were necessary, to prevent a surprize.

ON the 5th of August we came within sight of the enemy's fires, and could by the smoke and tracks we fell into, be certain of their approach; our commanding officer then made the following dispositions, he ordered the men to be formed in a square, taking care to double the number of men on each of the flanks, and also small parties of reserve for the angles, and as a guard for the rear; we were drawn up in this manner, when our van descried the Indians, when they were convinced that they saw them, they immediately began the attack.

the front, which is contrary to their maxims in war; they being accustomed to begin an engagement in the rear.

When Col. Buccard perceived their design, he ordered that part of the square which were on flank, to move forward and support the front, leaving the escort to be drove up by the rear; the front of the square was composed of the Virginians and Royal Americans, and the light company of the 42d. Regt. who withstood the enemy with a resolution which will always be remembered to their honour; they however suffered greatly, the first being almost all cut off, and only 4 of the Royal Americans left unhurt; the light company of Virginians had not much better fortune, for they were all kill'd or wounded. The rear by this time had come, when the Indians perceiving they must fight a fresh party, changed their scheme, came round and attacked the rear; we faced about, and having made a kind of breastwork with the flour bags, waited their approach; when they came close up, we gave them our whole fire, and rushed out upon them with fixt bayonets; the Indians are not very well used to this way of fighting, they therefore immediately took to their heels, and left the field of battle, but they hovered in the woods about us all that day and night, which made the commanding officer not to think it expedient to leave that situation for that night.

We therefore encamped, and begun to look after

after our wounded, many of whom we found so faint for want of water, that they must inevitably have perished if they were not relieved; accordingly a party was sent out to look for water, of which we could find none but what was very muddy; however we made use of it, and were glad to get it any way; we lay upon our arms all night, and at day break the Indians advanced and begun to fire upon us, as before, all the morning was spent in procuring conveniencies for carrying our wounded men. About noon the firing was very hot, and the Indians become so insolent, that they told Colonel Buccard who commanded, that they would have his scalp before night, they also knew one of the men who was a cooper, and made kegs for them, they told him they would pay him for his kegs, and they were as good as their words for they shot him through both legs.

THE loss we sustained broke the square entirely, so that we were in the greatest danger, when it was thought high time to make our last effort, and endeavour to free ourselves from this deplorable situation. Accordingly it was agreed, that the remaining part of the 42d regiment should strip to their waistcoats, and from the rear to give the Indians a warm fire, while the main body was to proceed to a clear spot of ground called Bushyrun, about a mile from the place where we engaged the day before. This being put in force, the Indians thought we were going to break and

run away, and being sure of their prey came upon us in the greatest disorder; but they soon found their mistake, for we met them with our fire first, and then made terrible havoc amongst them with our fixt bayonets, and continuing to push them every where, they set to their heels and were never after able to rally again; in the mean while the main body proceeded to Bushyrun, and there encamped; we had a very wet night, which obliged us to make large fires in order to dry ourselves.

NEXT day we marched towards Fort-Pit; we were fired upon by some Indians from the top of a hill, but we soon made them run, and again encamped in a swampy ground, and staid there two days to refresh ourselves. The Indians kept whooping round us with their odious death halloo, but never appeared in our sight, being terrified with their defeat. We were now within 20 miles of Fort-Pit, & had no directions if we were again attacked, and should be defeated, to make the best of our way to said Fort, but the Indians never appeared.

WE at last arrived at the Fort, and relieved the inhabitants with provisions and every other thing necessary. Our arrival gave new life to the whole, we staid but a short time here, having to escort the inhabitants down the country, and to come back with more provisions. We continued employed in this manner till the first of January, the snow falling so deep,

we were obliged to shovel it away every night to make our beds and fires; every man being provided with a hatchet to cut wood, and a shovel for the snow, we were obliged also to go in parties, and trample it before the horses, in order to prevent their being mired in it.

IN these excursions I think we marched 1500 miles, the Forts being stored with provisions, we settled in them untill the spring of the year 1764. Provisions at last becoming scarce, we made several incursions into the fields about Fort Pit, where we found Indian corn in great plenty, of which we brought considerable quantities to the garrison, and pounded it for broth. But upon these parties we were frequently in great danger, for the Indians gave us many a chase. On one of these expeditions I lost my comrade, who was taken, scalped, and died the same day. About this time a draft was made from the 77th Regiment, into the 42d. and the rest was reduced. The winter was excessive hard, and we were obliged to carry our firing upon sledges, six men to each.

THE Indians still being at war, in the spring an expedition was preparing against them, but they had cut off all communication between the Forts, so that it was impossible to send any intelligence from one place to another. I being always forward undertook to carry a packet to Fort Ligonier; in order to secure our dispatch, it was thought necessary

make three several packets of the same contents, that if one or two should fall, the other might escape. Accordingly we set out for the Indian town in the evening, & had the good fortune to reach it next day, without any interruption; we waited for the answer coming from the inhabitants, and set out in the evening as before; but the Indians had got scent of us, and lay in wait; we walk'd very hard all night untill day break, and then being quite weary, went into the woods in order to rest, and soon fell fast asleep. By this imprudence we threw ourselves into the greatest danger, and, would certainly have been murdered, but for a dog which we had with us, which was alarmed by the noise and howling the Indians made; they tracked us to the very spot, and only waited untill they had gathered their infernal crew, to make a sacrifice of us.

WHEN we had recovered ourselves, we made for the high road, but found the tracks of many Indians; we thought it most adviseable to take a by-path, and make the best of our way to the Fort, we were under terrible apprehensions, for all the way we heard the Indian halloo, and other tokens of their approach, however we got to the Fort in safety. But our expedition was unlucky, for two of the soldiers belonging to the garrison, who had been out to look for horses, fell in with their pursuers, who scalpt them both, and left them almost dead on the spot. Here I cannot

not but remark the goodnels of Providence that saved us in such imminent danger.

WHEN the Indians take a packet, they immediately carry it to some of the white people (of which they have generally some prisoners) force them to explain the contents and by this means are often enabled to frustrate our designs; they know all the officers and the parts they are to act against them, and very merrily when any of these gentlemen fall into their hands, remind them of the great things they had intended to perform. The Inhabitants lying at such a distance from Fort Pitt, the season was far advanced, before reinforcements and provisions could be ready; however on the 1st July the whole rendezvoused at the Fort, and consisted of 200 men, exclusive of some light horse raised for purpose for this expedition.

WE cross'd the river Alleganey, then proceeded down the Ohio about 30 miles, streched through part of that vast track that lies between the Ohio and Lake Erie, and at last came in amongst their towns. When they saw that our force was considerable, and that in all probability we would destroy their country entirely, all their courage forsook them and the greatest terror and dismay succeeded when we reached Mifshingame, a small town belonging to them, about 100 miles from Fort Pitt. We halted for three days, in order to concert measures for punishing them effectually. but first it was agreed to offer them peace

according

Accordingly messengers were dispatched to inform them of our friendly disposition towards them of which they were extremely glad, & immediately sent their chiefs to negotiate for them. The place of congress was a fine green, about a mile from our camp, and they came to the following agreement, viz. that the Indians should lay down their war-batchet, and restore all the white people they had prisoners amongst them since the beginning of the war. And that when we received them we should return. The Indians observed their articles punctually, but we had the trouble of marching 40 miles further to receive them. They consisted mostly of women and children, and only a few men; this detained us near a month in their country, for some of these prisoners were in their most distant Towns.

THE Calumet of Peace is made of certain bones, or of marble, whether red, black, or white. The pipe or stalk is four or five feet long; the body of the Calumet is eight inches long, and the mouth or head in which the tobacco is lodged, is three inches in length; its figure approaches to that of a hammer. The red Calumets are most esteemed. The Indians make use of them for negotiations and state affairs, and especially in voyages; for when they have a Calumet in their hand, they go where they will in safety. The Calumet is decorated with yellow, white, and green feathers, and has the same effect among the In-

dians, that the flag of friendship has among us; for to violate the rights of this venerable pipe, is among them a flaming crime that will draw down mischief upon their nations.

I had the pleasure of meeting my adopted friends here, and they testified a deal of joy at seeing me alive; they invited me to their camp, accordingly I went with them, and was used with the greatest hospitality, I had the honour of dining with two of their kings or chiefs, after dinner we drank very heartily and in particular one of their majesties got intoxicated, that he fell into the fire and burnt himself terribly, and would have lain there 'till he had been consumed, if we had not pushed him out.

THE firmness and foolhardiness of the Indians may be seen from the following anecdote which I met with at Montreal, in a small book written by Baron Lahontan.

IN the late war the Chevalier Beauclerc returned to the colony with his party, and brought along with him twelve prisoners of the Iroquese, who were immediately conducted to Quebec: After they arrived, Mr. Frontenac the Governor did very judiciously condemn two of the wickedest of the company to be burnt alive with a slow fire. This sentence extremely terrified the governor's lady and the Jesuits; the lady used all manner of supplication to procure a moderation of the terrible sentence, but the judge was inexorable.

and the Jesuits employed all their eloquence in vain upon this occasion. The governor answered them, "That it was absolutely necessary to make some terrible examples of severity to frighten the Iroquese; that since these barbarians burnt almost all the French, who had the misfortune to fall into their hands, they must be treated after the same manner, because the indulgence which had hitherto been shown them, seemed to authorize them to invade our plantations, and so much the rather to do it, because they run no other hazard, than that of being taken, and well kept at their master's houses; but when they should understand that the French caused them to be burnt, they would have a care for the future, how they advanced with so much boldness to the very gates of our cities; and in fine, that the sentence of death being past, these two wretches must prepare to take a journey into the other world."

This obstinacy appeared surprizing in Mr. Montenac, who but a little before had favoured the escape of three or four persons condemned to the sentence of death, upon the importunate prayer of madam the governess; tho' she redoubled her earnest supplications, she could not alter his firm resolution as to these two wretches. The Jesuits were thereupon sent to baptize them, and oblige them to acknowledge the trinity, and the incarnation, and to represent to them the joys of

of Paradise, and the torments of hell, within the space of eight or ten hours. This was a very bold way of treating these great mysteries, and to endeavour to make the Iroquois understand them so quickly, was to expose them to their laughter. Whether they took these truths for songs, I do not know; but this I can aver, that from the minute they were acquainted with this fatal news, they sent back these good fathers without ever hearing them; and then they began to sing the song of death, according to the custom of the Indians.

SOME charitable person having thrown a knife to them in prison, he who had the less courage of the two, thrust it into his breast and died of the wound immediately. Some young Hurons of Lorette, aged between ten and 15 years, came to seize the other, and to carry him away to the Diamant Cape, where notice was given to prepare a great pile of wood. He ran to death with a greater unconcernedness, than Socrates would have done, if he had been in his case. During the time of execution he sung continually: "That he was a warrior, brave and undaunted; that the most cruel kind of death could not shock his courage, that no torments could extort from him any cries, that his companion was a coward for having killed himself through the fear of torment; and lastly, that if he was burnt, he had this comfort, that he had treated man

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French and Hurons after the same manner."

ALL that he said was very true, and chiefly to his own courage and firmness of soul; I can truly say, that he neither shed tears, nor was ever perceived to sigh; but on the contrary, during all the time that he suffered the most horrible torments that could be invented, and which lasted about the space of 3 hours, he never ceased one minute from singing. The soles of his feet were roasted between two great stones red hot, for more than a quarter of an hour; the tops of his fingers were scorched in a stove of lighted pipes; during which torture he did not draw back his hand. After this the several joints of his body were cut off, one after another: So the nerves of his limbs and arms were distorted with an Iron wand, in such a manner, as cannot possibly be express'd. In fine, after many other tortures, the hair of his head was taken off after such a manner, that there remained nothing but the scull, upon which these young executioners were going to throw the burning sand, when a certain slave of the Hurons of Lorette, by the order of Madame the governess, knocked him on the head with a club, which put an end to his martyrdom.

BUT to return to my Narrative, my friends told me they had engaged the Cherokees, the day we left them, and that they concluded he had fallen into their hands, and added they

they were sorry for us; I did not endeavour to undeceive them, but continued to be cheerful among them, and had the strong professions of friendship made me. They ask'd me to go home to my wife and children, but I told them, that I was so closely watched by the rest of the troops, that it was impossible for me to get away. They laid several schemes in order to get me home, as they called it, but I knew too much of their designs, ever to live amongst them with my own choice, so I constantly defeated their purposes. My brother, that I might remember him, gave me fifteen Pounds, paper money, which he had collected upon the several other Indians, and embraced me in the tenderest manner at parting with him. I believe I shall always have a regard for him, as his friendship was the most sincere I ever met in all my life, and if it is ever in my power I will requite his kindness.

THE Baron of Saint Casteins, a gentleman of Oleron in Berne, having lived among the tribe of Abenakis, after their manner, for above twenty years, is so much respected by the Indians, that they look upon him as their tutelar God. He was formerly an officer in the Carignan regiment in Canada; and upon the breaking of that regiment, threw himself upon the Indians, whose language he had learn'd. He married among them after the same fashion, and prefer'd the forests of Acadia to the Pyrenean mountains, that encompassed

place of his nativity: for the first year of his
 trade with the Indians, he behaved himself
 as to draw an inexpressible esteem from
 them. They made him their great chief or
 leader, who is in a manner the Sovereign of
 the nation; and by degrees he has worked
 himself into such a fortune, which any man
 that he would have made such use of, as to
 draw out of that country, above 100,000l.,
 which he has now in his pocket in good dry
 gold. But all the use he makes of it, is to
 buy up goods for presents to his fellow-Indi-
 ans, who upon their return from hunting
 present him with Beaver-skins to a treble va-
 lue. He had several daughters, who were all
 of them married very handsomely to French-
 men, and had good dowries. He never chan-
 ged his wife, by which he gave them to un-
 derstand, that God does not love inconstant
 folks. 'Tis said that he endeavour'd to con-
 vert these poor people, but his endeavours
 proved unsuccessful.

Our business being finished we decamped,
 and began our march for Fort-Pit, where we
 arrived in the middle of November 1764, and
 remained there all winter, and the better part
 of the next summer. During our stay here,
 we were employed in bringing coals into the
 prison, over the ice, in bags made of cow-
 hides. The pit from which they are extracted
 is on the other side the river Maninghally,
 and it is supposed there is a very large mine
 there.

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HERE

HERE we thought we should have rest, but we were mistaken, for towards the end of summer, an order came from general Gage for a captain, two subalterns and 100 men of the Royal Highland regiment, to march down the Ohio, and proceed to the Mississippi to relieve a garrison of the French in the Illinois, the capital of the province of Vandalia. The 22d. regiment had been sent upon this service the year before, but was defeated, and drove back by the Indians, after they reached the banks of the Mississippi. We were ready for this expedition, and being provided with seven battoes, we set out the 4th day of July 1765. We were told that we should meet with great resistance from the Indians in our passage down the Ohio, so were prepared to give them a reception; but Providence left little for us to do, as will hereafter appear.

AND here I think it will not be improper to give the reader a description of this river, and the province of Vandalia, to which it leads, as we go along. The Ohio takes its source from the conjunction of the rivers Allegheny and Maninghally, just at Fort-Pitt. Geographers have described it as running with a smooth current, but this I aver is a mistake, for in our passage down it, we were frequently in the greatest danger from the rapidity of the stream, and the number of shelves and rocks that are to be met with in the bottom, and which makes the passage extremely dangerous.

to the smallest vessels, except they are
 managed with dexterity. When we had got
 far as a creek called Logstown, where was
 a small settlement, which belonged to the En-
 glish before the war, one of our battoes by
 striking suddenly upon a bank heaved so much
 that a serjeant, who was sitting carelessly up-
 on the gunnel plunged in, and was carried
 by the stream, and never more seen. Af-
 ter we had got the battoe off, we proceeded
 with the greatest caution to a small village
 on the banks, where we found some Indians,
 and by behaving friendly towards them, we
 got them persuaded to accompany us as guides;
 they had a war dance with them that evening,
 when we were to set out next morning,
 but they had changed their minds, however they
 gave us some provisions, and wished us a good
 journey.

WE accordingly went down with the cur-
 rent, endeavouring always to keep the mid-
 dle; when we came into a very narrow chan-
 nel hemmed in on both sides by stupendous
 rocks, and about dinner time reached a large
 cavern; we thought proper to make this our
 resting room for the day, and having drawn
 our battoes to the side went into it, and were
 surprised to find the walls covered with the
 bones of French soldiers, who had made
 this passage near 30 years before; we eat din-
 ner in the cave, and put off again, and to-
 wards evening came into a fine level country,
 where we went on shore and encamped all
 night.

NEXT day we proceeded but slowly by reason of the shallowness of the river, and the sand banks, which we run foul of several times; at last we reach'd their hunting grounds, and to our great joy found plenty of the wild papers, a fruit much admired by the Indians. It is as sweet as honey and contributed greatly to our refreshment after the salt provisions.

THIS Country abounds with large moose or overgrown deer, Buffalos and Panthers; these last when any of them has strayed from the herd, will howl in a terrible manner when they find their companions; their cry resembles that of a man, they are very nimble being able to make at least 20 feet at a spring. The Indians make use of the following stratagem to kill them: They always preserve the part of the skin which covered the head of the last one they kill, and having stuffed it as to preserve the shape, one of them claps it on his head, and imitating their cry, the Panther will immediately come towards him as soon as he has deluded him within gunshot, one of the other Indians immediately fires. The Indians are cautious not to attack one of those animals, unless he has some one near to assist him if he should miss fire, as that case his life would pay the forfeit,

WE had good pastime in killing the Buffalos, which were then in their prime fatness. These animals are in every respect like black cattle, only they have a large horn

on their backs, which, when laid open, appears to be solid fat, much like that of the breast of a cow, and is really most delicious eating. In short, the whole carcase for the purpose of soup making, is, in my opinion, preferable to any of our beef.

OUR situation here was very agreeable, having all kinds of wild fowl and venison in the greatest plenty. I saw a fowl here, the largest of any I ever met with, being considerably bigger than a swan, tho' of the same colour: the extent between the ends of their wings, when flying, is full 14 feet, and so large is the scope of their bills, that they can cut them round any thing that is not thicker than three feet. Having never heard of this bird before, we called it the Pelican in the Wilderness.

AFTER spending a fortnight in this charming spot, we proceeded down the River, whose channel now turns larger, from the increase of water emptied into it by a number of smaller rivers. The country upon the banks, is esteemed the best soil in the world, and in particular is so free from stones, that a plow may be driven for 20 miles, without meeting with one. The Indians who are bad skilled in agriculture, will from one bushel which they sow, have an increase of at least one hundred. Nor is there any wood that signifies to be found in this country.

It is a pity this track is not occupied by Europeans, as it is of so excellent a quality, that

that small trouble would be rewarded with immense wealth. Indeed the Indians might be troublesome, but this might be easily evaded; for if 2000 people were to begin a colony together, and take up their residence upon the banks, build small plantations and fortify them with stockades; every family to send their proportion of men to the fields, to work and watch in their turn, in a short time they would have fine crops, and the Indians would, from finding them always ready for them, be so intimidated, that they would draw off, and give them no more trouble.

If a scheme similar to this was executed which I think is probable, from its situation for water carriage, they might also partake of the blessings of trade, and become formidable: they could have a safe, tho' distant communication with New-Orleans, or they might bring from Fort-pit what they might want, by water, which last place is but 300 miles from Philadelphia. Thus I think, one of the finest countrys in the Universe, might be peopled with ease and advantage to the Possessors.

VAST shoals of white fish are catch'd about the middle of the channel, between the continent and the Isle of Michilimakinac. The Hurons could never subsist here, without the fishery; for they are obliged to travel about 20 leagues in the woods, before they can kill any Harts or Elks, and it would be an infinite fatigue to carry their carcases so far over land.

This sort of white fish in my opinion, is the only one in all these lakes that can be called good; and indeed it goes beyond all other sorts of river fish. Above all, it has one singular property, namely, that all sorts of fauces spoil it, so that it is always eat either boiled or broiled, without any manner of seasoning. In the channels I now speak of the currents are so strong, that they sometimes suck in the nets, though they are two or three leagues off.

In some seasons, it so falls out that the currents run three days eastward, two days to the west, one to the south, and four northward; sometimes more, and sometimes less. The cause of this diversity of currents could never be fathomed, for in a calm, they'll run in the space of one day to all the points of the compass, i. e. sometimes one way, sometimes another, without any limitation of time; so that the decision of this matter must be left to the disciples of Copernicus. Here the Indians catch trouts as big as one's thigh, with a sort of fishing-hook made in the form of an awl, and made fast to a piece of brass wire, which is joined to the line that reaches to the bottom of the lake. This sort of fishery is carried on not only with hooks, but with nets, and that in winter as well as in summer: For they make holes in the ice at a certain distance one from another, through which they conduct the nets with poles.

THE Camp being struck, and the men embarked

barked, we proceeded on our course down the river; when an accident happened, that had like to have proved fatal to me. One of the men, whose business it was to row the battoes, dropped his setting-pole into the water, for which he was reprimanded by his officer, in consequence of which he went after the pole, not considering the danger; when he came to the end of a sand bank, upon which the boat had struck, he suddenly fell into a very deep hole and had like to have been lost, when I, being a tolerable swimmer, ventured after him and got hold of his leg; finding he had something to hold by, he turned himself about smartly, laid hold of me by the breast and struggled with all his might to turn himself out of the current which was very strong. Not being prepared for such an event, he had like to have accomplished his aim, by putting me in his place, when fortunately one of the battoes came to our relief, and held out an oar for me to lay hold of, on which I pulled myself and him to it, and was taken up hardly dead with the fright, my comrade, was a long time before he came to himself, and when he did, regretted nothing so much as the loss of one of his silver buckles.

We at last came to the upper Shanny town after having sailed three hundred miles on the Ohio from Fort-Pit. There is a large river which runs into the Ohio at this place, and another which has its rise somewhere in the back part of South-Carolina, falls into it 50 miles lower down.

own. The country between, is all a clear
 old, where the Indians used to raise their
 corn, and formerly they had a large town
 here, some remains of which are yet to be
 seen.

We halted here two days to cleanse our
 arms, wash our linen, and cut some oars to
 supply the place of those we had lost and
 broke upon the passage; but being apprehen-
 sive of the Indians, we kept a strict guard,
 and could not spare any of our time for plea-
 sure. Having got all our necessaries ready,
 we set out again with the stream, and went
 about 200 miles farther, and then arrived
 at the lower Shanny-town, but this passage
 was much pleasanter than the former, owing
 to the beautiful prospect the country (on both
 sides of the river) afforded. In this part of
 the Ohio you may catch large fish, which
 they call Catfish some weighing 100 pounds, it
 makes excellent sauce, and eats very delici-
 ously, broiled on the coals.

The Indians who inhabit this town were
 all out hunting, so that we could only meet
 with a few, who were round a fire, but ran
 away in the greatest fright upon perceiving
 us, who they took for a party of Cherokees,
 with whom they were then at war: This they
 informed us of when they were undeceived
 and found we were Englishmen.

Just below this town, the river falls over
 a declivity near a mile long, which for the
 current and rocks, make it impassible for

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boats,

boats, we therefore were obliged to land, and draw our boats along the shore, which hurt them greatly in their bottoms, in-so much that we were obliged to halt at the bottom of these falls for two days, to calk and mend our boats; we had also to carry our provisions on our shoulders, which delayed us some time longer. At last we got them loaded, and set out again, the channel turns deeper and wider to this place; the French used to come up yearly from New-Orleans to trade with the Indians, the commodities they bring for this trade are chiefly powder and shot, for which they get a return in furs.

THIS country is inhabited by the Flat-head nation; they are called so from their heads which resemble a Trencher upon the top. This tribe are the fiercest, and most cruel Savages in America, for they never spare any prisoner; a little lower there is a river called the Washbath, which is near as large as the Ohio, but where it takes its rise has never yet been found out. There are three different tribes of Indians inhabiting the banks of this river, who are similar to the flat-heads in their manners, and are continually at war with one another.

WHEN we had passed the Wash-bath, we were surprised to see a vessel with a white flag upon the river, we drew near, and found her to be a French galley of 20 oars and a small boat, both laden with arms and ammunition for the Indians. They had an Indian chief

with them, who not knowing we were at peace with Indians, made preparations to attack us. They were moreover surprized at our imprudence in venturing to come into that country especially as our force was so inconsiderable ; but after reconnoitering us some time, they came to a resolution to enquire whether we came as friends or enemies, they accordingly sent a canoe with an Interpreter aboard, to enquire of our designs, and upon our giving them an agreeable answer, they all came to us, and consulted what should be our best course. The Indian chief gave his opinion for our returning immediately and threatened that he would never suffer us to pass in safety, being determined he said, never to give the English peace. He told us he had destroyed a large vessel and killed all the traders, about three years before, and that if we did not follow his advice he would endeavour to use us in the same manner ; however we were too far embarked in our expedition, for his remonstrances or threats to have any weight. The French traders were much intimidated by his threats and return'd immediately to New-Orleans, but we proceeded to an old Fort which belonged to the French, and is within 100 miles of the mouth of the Ohio.

We here dispatched a party by land, with a letter to the French Governor of the Illinois, but they missed their rout, and lost themselves for some days in the wood, so that

we arrived there before them. On the 13th of August we reached the extremity of the Ohio, and entered into the Mississippi (in the Indian language the mother of all rivers, which is the largest river in America. We had 100 miles to sail up to Fort Chartres in the Illinois, and an excessive current to struggle against, which broke all our oars, so that we were obliged to put to shore, and make new ones.

AFTER eleven days hard struggle, at length we got to a small village, about 15 miles below Fort Chartres, and were greatly surprized to see every body run from us; our own Indians turned tail also, and went to the runaways, whom we imagined were plotting our destruction, but we were soon relieved from this terrible a thought by the appearance of our Indians, who brought some of the French Indians along with them, to whom we gave some presents, and told them the reason of our coming; they gave us liberty to pass, and next day we arrived at the Fort, and camped under the walls.

AN affray happened this night betwixt our party and the French Indians who quarrelled with one another in their drunken fits, and with their scalping knives they killed one of our Indians, and lost two of their own party so that we had to make peace between them next morning. At the same time we relieved the French garrison, who had been in the possession of both crowns for three Years, and were

eeding sorry at being removed from so happy situation.

THIS fort is only capable of withstanding the attacks of an Indian party, it is built with stone, and is only for small arms. The country here is extremely level, and the soil good; the French had a small town just by the fort, but the river, which widens its channel every year one hundred yards on each side, has washed most of the houses away. However they have a town about 30 miles farther up, and another 20 miles across the country; with these people we contracted for provisions and lived here extremely happy for some time.

THE Mississippi is the boundary betwixt the English and Spanish territories, the former possessing all the country on the north, and the latter that on the south side. The French having now ceded that part which was in their possession at the conclusion of the War, to the Spaniards,

HEARING that the 34th regiment was on their way to relieve us; an officer and some men were sent to meet them 200 miles from the Fort. They had been six months on their passage on the Ohio, and were so worn out with the fatigue, that they could not make above five miles a day; the channel seems to have undergone a change, for in those parts which we thought ourselves acquainted with, we could find no bottom, so were unable to work the boats any other than by plying at the

the oar. We piloted them up as far as the mouth of the Ohio and then left them. They however arrived at the fort the 1st of December 1765, and relieved us; the commanding officer of the 34th Regt. bestowed the name of Cavendish upon the Fort, by which it has been since known.

We got ready for our departure, and it was agreed we should go by New Orleans because the season was far spent, and the rivers frozen in such a manner, that we could not go by the Ohio. We set out the 13th of December, and having reached the before-mentioned town, 20 miles from the fort, we halted two days to get in our provisions. I was told by an old trader who lives here, that he had been up the Mississippi 500 leagues and that he was informed by the inhabitants there, that the river had no end, and run out of a lake full of little islands; this much however, I believe, that its source has never with certainty been fixed upon.

WHILE we stayed here, I went with another man for some brandy and had a narrow escape with my life: We had each of us a half gallon Kegg, and on our return through the town, met some drunken Indians, who knowing we had brandy, insisted on having a share, which we by no means would grant. They immediately drew their scalping knives and would have forced it from us: It was too precious to part with in this manner, and feeling we could not defend ourselves against

such numbers, we had recourse to flight, they pursued us half a mile, and not being able to come up with us, they threw their tomohawks at us, one of which stuck in my Kegg, and made a hole in it that let all my brandy out. I was so enraged, that I would certainly have killed him, but my comrade pulled me away, being very glad I did not lose my life with the brandy, I however gave him a sore head and proceeded to the camp.

Our provisions being got in, we proceeded down the Mississippi, which is very irregular in its centre, running sometimes north and then south, but the main of its course from Fort Mandeville, is south as far as the bay of Mexico. I was sent with seven men in a boat, to hunt on the banks; the Buffalo being very plenty, we lived better than the rest, having choice turkeys and other wild fowl. The land is full of canes, which are so thick, that you cannot walk in them without difficulty. One of our officers went hunting and lost himself for three days, but was at last found hearing a gun fired.

THERE is another small fort on the north side of the river, called Musach, which is now in our possession, and the French inhabitants come every year to hunt for Buffalo, which they salt without bones, and carry to New Orleans. This branch, together with the trade carried on with the Indians, employs a vast many boats. There is a very large river, called the Rush or Red river, which

which empties itself into the Mississippi; it derives its name from the redness of the bottom. It has its source among the gold mines of Mexico, and is navigable for large boats within 50 miles of the city. The Spaniards might avail themselves much, in the sending home their gold this way, as it would be much easier and safer pass than by the Havannah.

THE French outwitted our court at the treaty of Montreal, for they called New Orleans an island, which it is not, being only separated from the main by a ditch, and the ditch so narrow that I have often jumped over it. The cut they say runs as far as the bay of Mobile, and is never occupied by water unless there is a flood in the Mississippi, to which it serves as a drain: A large frigate came up the river as far as this cut, which is a proof of its being navigable. The country according to the limits the French gave it, is 100 miles in length, but very narrow in some parts.

WE arrived at New-Orleans on New Year's day, having gone as much in fifteen days, as took the 34th Regiment about six months to accomplish, this is owing to the rapidity of the stream, against which they sailed, whereas we went along with it. The water is always muddy, and full of sand; we boiled it always before use.

THE Governor of New-Orleans received us kindly, ordered us all kinds of provisions

and appointed a spacious field for our camp. The Scotch Fuzileers arriving here at the same time, on their way to Musach, it was thought our best course, to take their transport, give them our boats, and so proceed to Pensacola, as soon as some planks, which the Captain was to take upon the Governor's account, could be got ready. During our stay we had liberty to visit the city in parties, in one of these excursions, I was surprized to hear some one call me by my name, and turning about saw an officer coming up to me. I stopt to know what he wanted, and found him to be the gentleman I had taken prisoner at Martinico, and of whom I have before made mention. He said his intention for calling me, was to make a return for the kindness I had shewed him in sparing his life; he entertained me elegantly and offered me three hundred crowns, if I would stay with him in the French service, which I refused; but when we departed, he sent a large quantity of sea stores as a present to me, with directions not to let me know any thing of it, 'till we should be at sea.

At length we set sail for Pensacola, and whether from the roguery or ignorance of the Captain of the transport I can't tell, but we were toss'd about the mouth of the Mississippi two months, and were several times near being lost, having run farther to the east, along the coast of Florida, than any vessel ever before with safety. One of these days

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we found ourselves off Cape Florence, with only three fathom water, our vessel drew fourteen feet, and suddenly struck into a place where we could find no bottom, which made us imagine we were near a shelve of rocks, and we saw breakers not a hundred yards from us; we immediately put about, got from this place, and steering westward, arrived at last at Pensacola, after having been from the 30th of January to the 18th of March upon our passage.

WHEN we landed, they testified their joy at seeing us, having thought we were lost. The Governor appointed an out-house for us to live in, without beds, blankets, or any thing to cover us. The 31st. Regiment lay in garret here, and were so sickly, that they buried four or five at a time. This climate is the most fatal to Europeans, of any in America, and is so for soil and every other property, the most barren in the world. There is a barracks here, built with logs and bark, and surrounded with a mud wall, in very bad repair. The town consists of a few irregular houses and thinly inhabited. The harbour is indeed large and good. The sea breezes the same as in the West-Indies. There are few Spaniards living up the Bay, where the land is better than this about the Fort.

BEING a cooper by trade, I was employed to mend our water casks, which when I had compleated, and we had got a supply of provisions, we set sail for New-York, and touch

at the Island of Cuba; the Spaniards hoisted a red flag upon the Moro-castle, signifying their being disobliged at our entering the port so were obliged to sheer off.

THEY have cut down the woods which sheltered the English during the late siege, and have put the fortifications in a much better state than formerly.

WE arrived at New-York the twentieth of June, and marched immediately for Philadelphia.—The captain of the transport was tried in New-York, by a court of Admiralty, and fined for unnecessary delays, as he was paid by the month.

WE lay in the barracks of Philadelphia for twelve months, were relieved by the Royal-istish foot, and embarking on board their transports, sailed for Ireland, and arrived in Cork the twenty-eighth of July 1767, being reduced from one hundred effectives, to six or seven men per company.

THUS, after the fatigues of a long and painful War, I live to enjoy the blessings of peace, and am still in the service of my King and country, ready to undergo my labours again, if either should have occasion to call

A Description of the BEASTS of CANADA

THE Michibichi is a sort of Tyger, only 'tis less than the common Tyger, and not so much speckled. As soon as it descries a man it runs away, and climbs up the first tree it meets with. It attacks all brute animals whatsoever, and conquers them with ease; and which is very singular and peculiar to it above all other animals, it runs to the assistance of the Indians, when they pursue bears and wild beeves; upon such occasion it makes as if it were afraid of no body, and falls out with fury upon the hunted animal. The Indians call these animals a sort of Manitous, that is, spirits that love men; and is upon that score they esteem and respect them to such a degree, that they would choose rather to die, than to kill one of them.

The white Beavers are much valued, upon the account of their being uncommon, though at the same time, their hair is neither so large nor so fine as that of the common Beavers. As there are but few of these white Beavers, so those which are quite black are very scarce.

THE reddish Bears are mischievous creatures, for they fall fiercely upon the hunters, whereas the black ones fly from them. The former sort are less, and more nimble than the latter.

The Crocodiles of Mississipi, are exactly the same with those of the Nile and other places.

The usual method that the Indians have for taking them alive, is to throw great wreaths or cords made of the barks of trees with a running knot, upon their neck, the middle of their body, their paws, &c. After they are thus seized, they shut them up between ten or twelve stakes, and there tie them after their belly is turned upwards. While they lie in this posture, they flea them without touching their head or their tail, and give them a coat of fir-bark, to which they set fire, having cut the ropes that keep them fast. Upon such occasions, these animals make a fearful howling and crying.

THE Ossa, are little animals like hares, and resemble them in every thing, excepting the ears and hind-feet. They run, and cannot climb. Their females have a bag under their belly, where their young ones enter upon a pursuit, in order to save themselves along with the mother, who immediately betakes herself to flight.

THE silver-colour'd foxes are of the same shape with those of Europe, as well as the black ones. The black ones are very scarce, and whosoever catches one, is sure to sell it for its weight in gold. This species is met with only in the coldest countries.

THE white Bears are a monstrous animal, and extraordinary long; their head has a formidable aspect, and their hair is very large and thick; they are so fierce, that they will come and attack a sloop in the sea, with seven

or eight men in it. 'Tis said, that they will swim six or seven leagues without being tired. They live upon fish and shells on the sea-shore, from whence they seldom straggle far. I never saw but one of them in my life-time, which had certainly tore me to pieces, if I had not espy'd it a distance, and so had time to run for shelter.

THE flying-Squirrels are as big as a large rat, and of a grayish white colour. They are as drowsy, as those of the other species are watchful. They are called flying Squirrels, in regard that they fly from one tree to another, by the means of a certain skin which stretches itself out in the form of a wing, when they make these little flights.

THE White Hares are only such in winter for as soon as the spring comes on, they begin to turn grayish, and by degrees recover the same colour as our hares have in Ireland, which they hold till the end of autumn.

THE Suisse Squirrels are little animals, resembling little rats. The epithet of Suisse is bestowed upon them, in regard that the hair which covers their body, is streaked with black and white, and resembles a Suisse's doublet; and that these streaks make a ring on each thigh, which bears a great deal of resemblance to a Suisse's cap.

THE large Stags are neither higher nor thicker, than those in Europe; but they are called large in proportion to two other species of Harts that frequent the southern countries.

tries. The lesser sort affords the most delicious meat.

The sea-Wolves, which some call sea-calves are as big as mastiffs. They are almost always in the water, or at least they never go far from the sea-side. These animals do not walk so much as they crawl, for when they raise themselves out of the water, they only creep upon the sand or clay. Their head has the form of an otter's head, and their feet, which have no legs, resemble those of a goose. The female kind bring forth their young ones upon the rocks, or upon some little islands, just by the sea. The sea-Wolves live upon fish, and resort to cold countries. There is a prodigious number of them about the mouth of the river of St. Lawrence.

As for the remaining animals of Canada, I have treated of them before. I will not attempt to shew what methods the Indians take to catch or kill all these animals, for such an undertaking would be endless. But this I can affirm, that in general they rarely go hunting to no purpose, and that they make no use of their dogs, but in the hunting of Elks, and sometimes in hunting of Beavers.

A Description of the Birds.

THE Huard is a freshwater-fowl, as big as a goose, and as dull and heavy as an ass. They have black and white feathers, a pointed beak, and a very short neck. They

They only duck or dive in the summer, for they cannot use their wings; and in that season, the Indians take the diversion of surrounding them with seven or eight canoes, and so obliging them to dive down, when they offer to come up to take breath. The Indians have entertained me several times with this agreeable amusement, during the course of the voyages I made with them.

THE red Partridges are wild and little, and much different from the Red Partridge we have in Europe, as well as the Pheasant, whose feathers being of a white colour with black specks, make a very agreeable diversity.

THE largest Eagles we find in this country, are no bigger than Swans. Their head and their tail is white, and they have frequent engagements with a sort of vultures, that commonly have the better of it. In our voyages we had frequent occasions of seeing these engagements, which last as long as the Eagle can keep up the force of its wings.

THE Parrots are met with in the Ilinefe country, and upon the river of Mississipi. — They are very small, and are the same with those brought from Brazil and Cayenne.

THE sort of Nightingale that I saw, is of a peculiar form; for 'tis of a lesser size than the European, and of a blueish colour, and its notes are more diversified; besides that, it lodges in the holes of trees, and four or five of them do commonly keep together upon the thickest

thickest trees, and with joynt notes warble
o'er their songs.

THE Flylike Bird is no bigger than one's
thumb, and the colour of its feathers is so
changeable, that it is hard to fasten any one
colour upon it. They appear sometimes red,
sometimes of a gold colour, at other times
they are blue and red; and properly speaking
it is only the brightness of the sun that makes
us insensible of the change of its gold and
red colours. Its beak is as sharp as a needle.
It flies from flower to flower, like a bee, and
by its fluttering sucks the flowery sap. Some-
times about noon it perches upon the little
branches of plumb or cherry-trees.

THERE are ten or twelve sorts of Ducks in
this country. Those call'd Branchus, are the
smallest indeed, but they are much the pret-
tiest. The feathers upon their necks look so
bright, by virtue of the variety and liveliness,
of their colours, that a fur of that nature
would be invaluable in Muscovy, or Turkey.
They owe the name of Branchus, to their res-
ting upon the branches of trees. There is a-
nother species of ducks in this country, that
are as black as Jackdaws, only their beak and
the circle of their eyes are red.

THE Seamews, Grelans and Sterlets, are
birds that fly incessantly over seas, lakes, and
rivers, in order to catch little fish. Their
flesh is good for nothing, besides that, they
have no substance of body, though they seem
to be as big as pigeons.

THE Sea-Parrots bear the name of parrots upon the account that their beak is of the same form with that of the land-parrot; they never quit the sea or the shore; and always flying upon the surface of the water in quest of little fish. Their colour is black, and their size is much the same with that of a pullet.

The Moyacks are a sort of fowl, as big as a goose, having a short neck, and a broad foot and which is very strange, their eggs are half as big again as a Swan's, and yet they are all yolk, and that so thick, that they must be diluted with water, before they can be used in pancakes.

The white partridges, are as big as our red partridges. Their feet are cover'd with such a thick down, that they resemble those of a young rabbit. They are only seen in the winter time, and some years they are scarce seen at all, tho' on the other hand, in other years they are so plentiful, that you may buy a dozen for nine pence. This is the most stupid animal in the world; it sits upon the snow and suffers itself to be knock'd on the head with a pole without offering to stir. I am of opinion, that this unaccountable number is occasioned by its long flight from Greenland to Canada. This conjecture is not altogether groundless, for 'tis observed, that they never come in flocks to Canada, but after the long continuance of a north or a north-east wind.

The black partridges are truly very pretty. They are bigger than ours; and their beak

ther with the circle of the eyes, and the feet are red; their plumage being of a shining black colour. These animals are very proud, and seem to have a sense of their beauty as they walk. They are but very uncommon, as well as the reddish partridges, which resemble Quails in their bulk and bigness.

THE white Ortolans are only met with in winter; but I am of opinion, that their feathers are naturally of a white colour, and that they retrieve their natural colour in the places they retire to, when they disappear in Canada. They are indifferent good to eat when they are fat, but that they seldom are. In the winter great quantities of 'em are catch'd about the barns, with nets stretched out upon the straw.

A Description of the FISH.

THE Balenot is a sort of a Whale, only 'tis less and more fleshy, and does not yield oil in proportion to the northern Whales. This fish goes fifty or sixty leagues up the river.

THE Souffleurs are much of the same size, only they are shorter and blacker. When they mean to take breath after diving, they squirt out the water through a hole behind their head, after the same manner with the Whales. Commonly, they dog the ships in the river St. Laurence.

THE white Porpoises are as big as Oxen.

They always go along with the current; and go up with the tide till they come at fresh water, upon which they retire with the ebb water. They are a ghastly sort of animals, and are frequently taken before Quebec.

THE Gasperots are a small fish, not unlike a Herring. In the summer time they make into the shore in such shoals, that the cod-fishers take as many of them as serves for bait for that fishery. These fishermen do likewise make use of herrings, when the season obliges them to put into the shore to spawn. In a word, all the fish that are made use of for a bait to make the codfish bite at the hook, are called Boete in the fishermen's dialect.

THE gold-colour'd fish are nice food. They are about fifteen inches long; their scales are yellow, and they are valued very high.

The Sea-Cows, which are a sort of porpoises, are bigger than the Normandy beeves. They have a sort of paws cut like a goose's foot, their head resembles that of an Otter; and their teeth which are two inches long, are reckoned the finest ivory that is. 'Tis said that they range wide of the shore, towards sandy and marshy places.

The Lobsters seem to be exactly the same with those of Europe.

The Cockles are of a piece, with those we have in Scotland, excepting that they are larger, and have a more agreeable taste, though

their flesh seems to partake more of crudity and indigestion.

The Muscles are prodigious large, and taste very well.

The lake-Sturgeons are commonly five or six feet long: But I once saw one of 10 feet, and another of twelve in length: the Indians catch them with nets in the winter, and grap-hooks in the summer. It is said, they have a certain sort of flesh about their head, that tastes like beef, mutton, and veal; but I have eat of it several times, and never could observe any such thing, which makes me look upon the allegation as chimerical.

The Fish in Armour, is about three feet and a half long. It is defended by such strong and hard scales, that it is impossible for any other fish to hurt it. Its enemies are trout and roaches, but it is admirably well provided for the repulsing of their attacks, by virtue of its pointed snout, which is a foot long, and as hard as its skin. It eats very well, and its flesh or substance is as firm as is white.

The lake Dabs or Sandings are not above a foot long, but they are very thick all over. In French, they are called Barbues with allusion to a certain sort of beards that hang down from the side of their muzzle, and are as big as ears of corn. We find in the river Mississippi some of a monstrous size. Both the one and the other are caught with hook, as well as with a net; and make very good victuals.

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The Mississipi Carps are likewise of an extraordinary size, admirably well tasted, and much the same form with ours. In the autumn they put in towards the shore, and are easily caught with a net.

The largest trouts we meet with in the lakes, are five feet and a half long, and of one foot diameter. Their flesh is red, and they are caught with great hooks made fast to pieces of wire.

The fish caught in the lakes, are better than those we take at sea, or in the rivers particularly the white fish, which for goodness and nice eating, are far beyond all the other species. The Indians that live upon the side of those little fresh-water seas, prefer the broth of fish, to meat-broth, when they are indisposed: this choice they ground upon experience; whereas the French on the other hand find that venison broth is at once more substantial and restorative.

The rivers of Canada are replenished with an infinity of other fishes, that are not known in Europe. The fish caught in the Northern country rivers, are different from those of the South; and those taken in the Long river, which disembogues into the river of Mississipi, have a flavour so rank of mud and clay, that it is impossible to eat of them; abating for a sort of little trouts that the Indians take in the adjacent lakes, which make a tolerable meal.

A Description of the TREES and FRUITS.

YOU must remark, that all the wood of Canada is good of its kind. Such trees as stand exposed to the North-winds are apt to be influenced by the frost, as it appears from the chinks that it occasions.

The Bitter Cherry-tree, has a hard and whitish wood, with a grey bark. Some of them are as tall as the loftiest oaks, and as big as a hoghead. This tree grows straight; it has an oval leaf, and is made use of in beams, rafters, and other carpenter's work.

The Maple tree is much of the same height and bulk; but it has a brown bark, and the wood is reddish. It bears no resemblance to that sort we have in Europe. It yields a sap which has a much pleasanter taste than the best lemonade or cherry-water, and makes the wholesomest drink in the world. This liquor is drawn by cutting the tree two inches deep in the wood, the cut being run sloping to the length of ten or twelve inches. At the lower end of this gash, a knife is thrust into the tree slopingly, so that the water running along the cut or gash, as through a gutter, and falling upon the knife that lies across the channel, runs out upon the knife, which has vessels placed underneath to receive it.

Some trees will yield five or six bottles of this water a day; and some inhabitants of Canada, might draw twenty hogheads of it

in one day, if they would thus cut and notch all the Maples of their respective plantations: the gash does no harm to the tree. Of this sap they make sugar and syrup, which is so valuable, that there cannot be a better remedy for fortifying the stomach. It is but few of the inhabitants that have the patience to make Maple-water, for as common and usual things are always slighted, so there is scarce any body but children that give themselves the trouble of gashing these trees. To conclude, the north-country Maples have more sap than those of the south countries, but at the same time the sap is not so sweet.

There are two sorts of nut-trees in this country. The one bears round, and the other long nuts but neither of them is good for any thing, no more than the wild chesnuts that grow in the Illenois country.

The Apples that grow upon some of their apple-trees, eat well when they are codled, but they are good for nothing when they are raw. Upon the Mississipi indeed, there is a sort of apples that have a taste not unlike that of some European apples. The Pears are good, but very scarce.

The Cherries are small, and extreme red, and though their taste is not good, yet the Roe-bucks like them so well, that in the summer time they scarce ever miss to lye under the cherry trees all night long, especially if it blows hard.

This country affords three sorts of excellent
Plumbe

Plumbs, which bear no resemblance to ours either in figure or colour. Some are long and small, some are round and thick, and some very little.

The Vines twine round the trees to the very top; and the branches of those trees are so cover'd with grapes, that one would take the grape to be the fruit of the tree. In some countries of North-America, the grape is little, but very well tasted; but towards the Mississipi, it is long and thick, and so is the cluster. There has been some wine pressed from the grapes of that country, which, as I am informed, after long standing become as sweet as canary, and as black as Ink.

The Citrons of North America are so called, only because their form resembles that of our Citron. Instead of a rind, they have on a single skin. They grow upon a plant that rises three feet high, and does not bear above three or four at a time. This fruit is as wholesome as its root is dangerous, for the one is very healthy, and the juice of the other is a mortal subtile poison.

While I stayed at Fort Frontenac, I saw an Iroquese woman take down this fatal portion, with a design to follow her deceased husband; after she had taken leave of her friends and sung the death song, with the formalities that are usual among those blind wretches.—The poison quickly worked the desired effect; for this widow, who in Europe would be justly looked upon as a miracle of constancy and fidelity,

fidelity, had no sooner swallowed the murdering juice, than she fell into two or three shivering fits, and so expired.

The Water-melons, called by the Spaniards Algiers melons, are round and thick, like a ball; some are red, and some white, and the kernels, which are very large, are sometimes black, sometimes red. As for their taste, it is exactly the same with that of the Spanish or Portugueze melons.

The Citruls of that country are sweet, and of a different nature from those of Europe, and I was informed, that the American Citruls will not grow in Europe. They are as big as our melons; and their pulp is as yellow as saffron. Commonly they are baked in ovens, but the better way is to roast them under the embers, as the Indians do. Their taste is much the same with that of the Marmalade of apples, only they are sweeter. — One may eat as much of them as she pleases, without fearing the least cloy, or disorder from them.

The wild Gooseberries are good for nothing, but for confits: but that sort of confits are seldom made, for sugar is too dear in Canada, to be employed for such uses.

A Description of the TREES and FRUITS of the Northern Countries.

THE Canada Birch-trees are much different from those we have in Scotland; both for bulk and quality. The Indians make canoes of their bark, some of which is red, and some white; but both are equally proper for that use. That which has the fewest veins and chops, is the best, but the red bark makes the finest show. There are some little baskets made of the young birches, that are much esteemed; and books may be made of them, the leaves of which will be as fine as paper. This I can speak by experience, for I have frequently made use of them for want of paper, in writing the Journal of my travels.

The pine-trees are very tall, straight, and thick; and are made use of for masts; some of these trees are big enough to serve for a mast to a first-rate ship.

The Epinette is a sort of a pine, with a sharper and thicker leaf. It is made use of in carpenters work, and the matter which drains from it, smells as sweet as Incense.

There are three sorts of Firs in this country, which are saw'd into dales, by certain mills, that the Quebec merchants have caused to be built in some places.

The Perusse is the properest of all green woods for the building of ships, upon the consideration that it is compacter, and has

pores, so that it does not soak or drink in the moisture as much as others.

Here are two sorts of Cedar, namely, the white and the red; but one must view them narrowly before he can distinguish them, by reason that both of them have much the same sort of bark. These trees are low, bushy and full of branches, and little leaves, resembling the tag of a lace. The wood of this tree, is almost as light as a cork; & the Indians make use of it in the wreaths and ribs of their canoes. The red sort looks admirably well, and is used in making Household goods, which retains an agreeable smell for ever.

The Asps are little shrubs, which grow upon the sides of pools or rivers; and in a word, in moist and marshy countries. This wood is the common food of the Beavers, who, in imitation of the Ants, take care to make a collection of it round their huts in the Autumn, which serves them for sustenance when the ice imprisons them in winter.

The White Wood is a midling sort of tree, that is neither too big nor too little. It is almost as light as cedar, and as easily worked upon. The inhabitants of Canada make little canoes of it, for fishing and crossing the rivers.

Maidenhair is as common in the forests of Canada, as Fern is in those of England; and is esteemed beyond that of other countries; insomuch, that the inhabitants of Quebec prepare great quantities of its syrup, which they

they send to Paris, Nants, Rouan, and several other cities in France.

Strawberries and Rasberriess are wonderfully plentiful in Canada, and taste extremely well. We meet likewise with some white Gooseberries in this country; but they serve for no use, unless it be to make a sort of vinegar of them, that is very strong.

The Bluets are certain little berries, not unlike small cherries, only they are black, and perfectly round. The plant upon which they grow, is as big as a Raspberry-bush—These berries serve for several uses, after they are dried in the sun, or in an oven; for then they make confits of them, or put them into pye, or infuse them in brandy. The north-country Indians make a crop of them in the summer, which affords them very seasonable relief, especially when their hunting comes short.

Now it remains only to give you an Inventory of the Goods that are proper for the Indians, and, and of the skins which they give in exchange, together with their neat prices,

Short and light Fuses.

Powder.

Ball and cut Lead, or small-Shot.

Axes both great and small.

Knives with their sheaths,

Sword-blades to make Darts of.

Kettles of all sizes.

Shoemakers Awls.

- Fish-hooks, of all sizes.
- Flint-stones,
- Caps of blue serge.
- Shirts made of coarse linen.
- Coarse Yarn stockings.
- Brasil Tobacco.
- Coarse thread for Nets.
- Sewing thread of several colours.
- Pack-thread.
- Vermillion.
- Needles, both large and small.
- Beads,
- Iron heads for Arrows,
- Soap,
- Sabres or Cutlasses.
- ✓ Brandy goes off incomparably well.

The Names of the SKINS given in exchange,
with their rates.

	s.	d.
The skins of Winter Beavers, alias Muscovy Beavers, are worth per pound — — —	4	10
The skins of fat Beavers, the hair of which falls off, while the Indians make use of them, per pound, —	5	0
Of Beavers taken in Autumn, per pd.	3	10
Of dry or common Beavers, per pound	3	0
Of summer Beavers, per pound,	3	0

The skin of a white Beaver is not to be va-
lued, no more than that of a Fox that's quite
black.

The

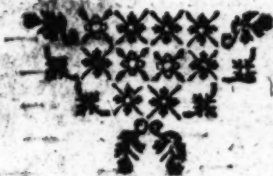
The skins of silver-colour'd Foxes-a piece,	—	—	4	0
Of common Foxes, in good order,	—	—	2	0
Of the common Martins,	—	—	1	0
Of the prettiest sort of Martins,	—	—	4	0
Of red and smooth Otters,	—	—	2	0
Of the winter and brown Otters,	—	—	4	10
or more.	—	—	—	—
Of the finest black Bears,	—	—	7	0
The skins of Elks before they are dressed, are worth per pound,	—	—	1	0
The skins of Stags are worth per pound about,	—	—	0	3
The wild Cats, or (as the French call them) Enfants de Diable, are worth a piece,	—	—	2	3
Sea Wolves, a piece,	—	—	2	3
or more.	—	—	—	—
Pole-Cats,	—	—	0	10
Weasels,	—	—	0	10
Musk Rats,	—	—	0	6
Their Testicles.	—	—	0	5
Wolves,	—	—	2	10
The white Elk-skins, i. e. those dress'd by the Indians, a piece,	—	—	8	0
Wild Beeves,	—	—	9	0
A Caribous,	—	—	6	0
A Lynx's,	—	—	0	8
A Badger's,	—	—	3	6
A Tyger's,	—	—	2	—
A Squirrel's,	—	—	0	4
Flying Squirrel's,	—	—	0	4

White

White Hare's,	—	—	1	0
Porcupine's,	—	—	0	8
Of a white Bear,	—	—	9	0
Crocodiles of the Mississipi,	—	—	1	0
A Roe-Buck's,	—	—	3	0

To conclude, you must take notice, that these skins are upon some particular occasions dearer than I have rated them, but the difference is but very small, whether under or over.

F I N I S .



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or